

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

The Library
of Texas
A and M College
COLLEGE STATION
TEXAS

LIBRARY
Agricultural & Mechanical College of Texas
College Station, Texas



AS. J. BEADEN, PITCHFORK, WYO.

THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK MONTHLY

FEBRUARY 1943

410 POUNDS

of meat are required by every fighting man for Uncle Sam in 1943. Lend-Lease and civilians require a great deal more than usual.



Livestock growers who produce this are just as important . . . just as loyal . . . just as essential as the soldiers themselves. If that 410 pounds is not produced, the fighting will not be as efficient.



It is essential to save manpower . . . to save transportation . . . to eliminate delays. The short route from the range or the feed-lot to the front is through the Central Markets. The highest net and the lowest handling cost is also via that route. Patriotism suggests you

SHIP TO THE



Union Stock Yard Companies



America's Leading Brand
of Animal Biologics and Supplies

FRANKLIN

VACCINES & SUPPLIES for

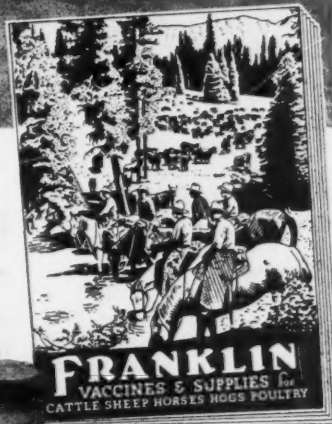
CATTLE SHEEP HORSES HOGS POULTRY



Use FRANKLIN PRODUCTS to Boost Your Livestock Production By Reducing Disease and Parasite Losses

THERE are many hazards between the breeding herd and a new crop of beef ready for human food. Bang's Disease, Scours, Blackleg, Shipping Fever, Plant Poisoning, Lumpy Jaw—even excessive bleeding and bad worm infestation—these and other sources of loss take their toll from America's herds, along with the ticks, lice and grubs which tend to seriously reduce meat and leather production. The use of the right Franklin Product at the right time greatly reduces these losses.

The new Franklin catalog explains dozens of such opportunities for protecting the stockman's profit and the source of America's number one fighting food.



Write today for this
Beautiful Big New
FREE CATALOG

Every owner of livestock needs this instructive free book. It shows important items not obtainable elsewhere. Colorful new edition sent free on request. A postal will do.

SHIPPING FEVER PROTECTION

Franklin Pasteurella-Pseudodiphthericum Bacterin contains a full dosage for Hemorrhagic Septicemia combined with a dose for Pulmonary Edema. 10c per 2 cc dose with quantity discounts.

BLACKLEG—DESTRUCTOR OF BEEF CALVES

This deadly infection is almost everywhere. The only safety is to vaccinate. Blackleg losses have been practically eliminated wherever Franklin Concentrated Culture Blackleg Bacterin is used. And one inexpensive dose does the work. The exclusive Franklin process uses more than 10 cc of whole culture condensed into a small, powerfully potent 1 cc dose. The retail price is 10c a dose with liberal scale of quantity discounts.

FRANKLIN BRUCELLA ABORTUS VACCINE

Approved preventive vaccination against infectious abortion (Bang's Disease, Brucellosis). The Franklin brand is made from Strain 19 and meets every requirement for the Government's program of eliminating this disease.

Franklin Products are sold by Drug Store Agencies Throughout the West

O.M. FRANKLIN SERUM CO. DENVER KANSAS CITY EL PASO MARFA AMARILLO FT. WORTH
WICHITA ALBUQUERQUE SALT LAKE CITY LOS ANGELES
Canadian Dist., J. A. DUNN & CO., Calgary



**MEAT is
America's
Number One
Fighting Food**



★ VACCINES ARE VITAL TO THE MEAT SUPPLY OF AMERICA ★

RESOLUTION FOR AMERICA



This year the tide of war must turn.

This year, all over the world, America fights.

Our farms and factories must produce as never before.

There must be food in quantity—and ships, planes, tanks and guns in numbers to outmatch the world.

And all these things must get to where they're needed—swiftly, on time, without fail or falter.

The railroads have a part in that job—a big part.

They accept it.

They could do with more en-

gines, more cars, more everything when materials can be spared for them.

Until then and after, railroads and railroad men will continue to work as they never worked before to get the big job done.

The guiding rule of our lives—and of yours—must be right of way for the U. S. A.

"It is now estimated that the railroads are moving well over a million troops a month. This is war movement, and must come first... Pleasure travelers crowding into passenger train seats may easily deprive a soldier or an essential traveler, who must board a train at the last minute, of necessary accommodation."

**JOSEPH B. EASTMAN, Director
Office of Defense Transportation**

Association of
AMERICAN

RAILROADS
Washington D. C.

LETTERS

TIMELY INFORMATION

In renewing my subscription, I want to tell you how much I have enjoyed the **PRODUCER** this past year. You have given us timely information about our many problems. Keep it up.—**L. E. MERCHANT, Eddy County, N. M.**

CATTLE NEVER BETTER

We are wintering fine here in this part of Montana. I have never seen the cattle look any better, and we have more grass on the ground than I have seen for a good many years.—**L. T. CARLET, Powder River County, Mont.**

WATER HOLES FULL

All water holes are full. Cattle are wintering better than for years. Herds are culled of all old cows, but ranchers are keeping yearlings. Any cattle offered for sale are sold at once at good prices. — **C. E. LEDBETTER, Eastland County, Tex.**

DRY AND OPEN

Our winter so far (January 7) has been dry and open, which eases up on our feeding conditions. Everyone seems to have an abundance of feed. Some of the cattlemen are finding replacement stock difficult to obtain at most any figure.—**LEONARD A. THOMAZIN, Holt County, Neb.**

HELP SCARCE

This has been a fine fall and winter here so far (January 11). Cattle are all out on the range and seem to be doing well. There is plenty of hay and feed of all kinds, but help is scarce, and many have not been allotted enough gasoline to do their necessary driving on their ranches.—**G. M. HOUSE, Dunn County, N. D.**

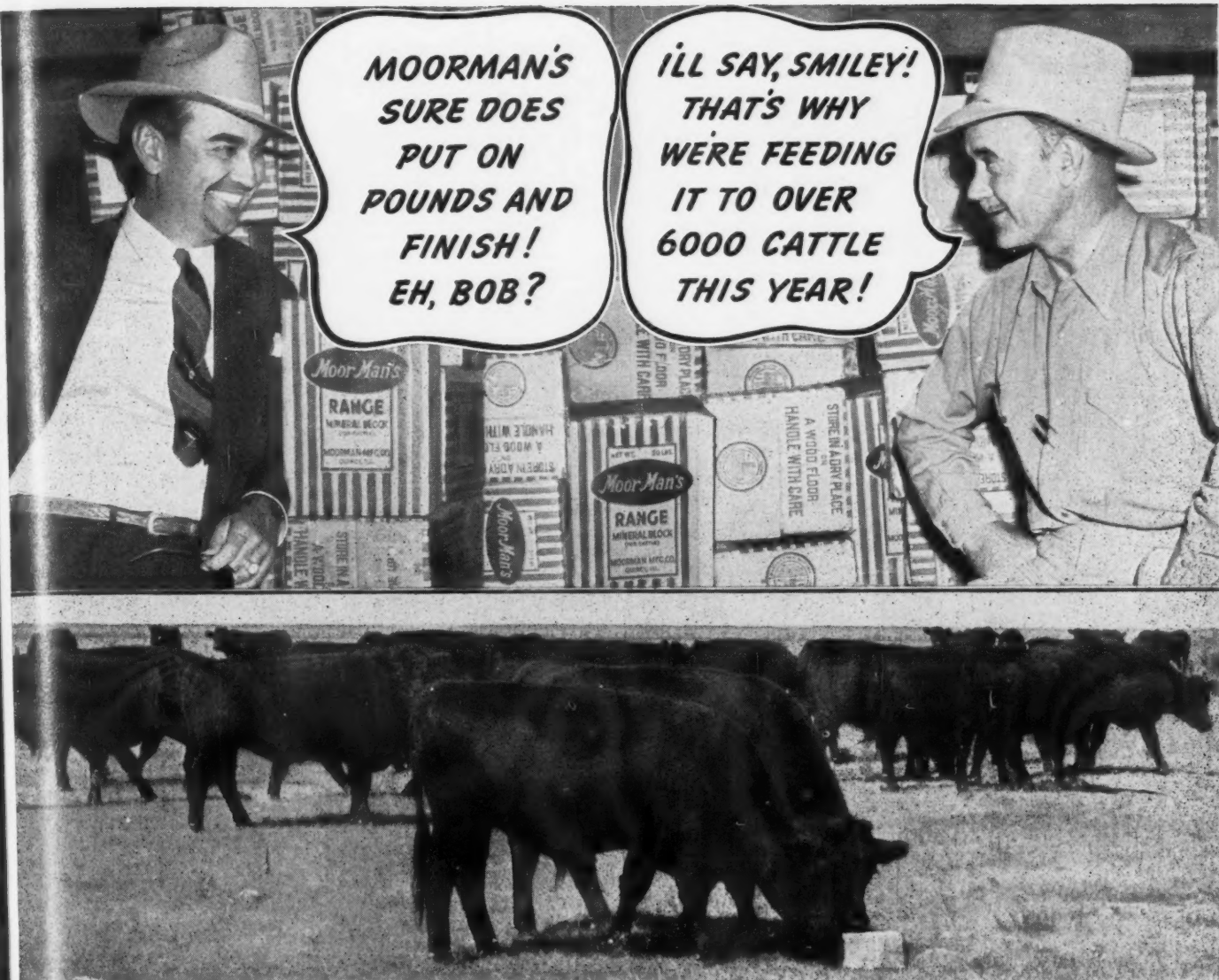
MILD WINTER

We are having mild winter—no freezing weather to date (January 6). We have light rains along coast about every two weeks. Cattle are wintering on salt grass in good shape. Cottonseed cake is hard to get; a good many are using cake on grass to hold up weight. There is some inquiry for age steers to go north, spring delivery. One-year-old steers priced \$50 to \$55; twos, \$60 to \$65; threes and fours, \$80 to \$100; caws, \$75 to \$90.—**T. J. POOLE, JR., Matagorda County, Tex.**

COLORADO RANGE COUNTRY

Weather conditions continued dry throughout western and southwestern Colorado through the fall and early winter, although most livestock was reported (Continued on Page 38)

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



**MOORMAN'S
SURE DOES
PUT ON
POUNDS AND
FINISH!
EH, BOB?**

**I'LL SAY, SMILEY!
THAT'S WHY
WE'RE FEEDING
IT TO OVER
6000 CATTLE
THIS YEAR!**

TOP OF PAGE: Partners, J. Smiley Triplett and R. W. (Bob) Pringle, photographed beside a recently arrived carload of MoorMan's Range Minerals in 50-lb. blocks. BELOW: A few of the fine Angus cattle for which MoorMan feeding caused the statement below:

"GAVE US OUTSTANDING GAINS"

... SAY THESE TWO PROMINENT SOUTHWESTERN CATTLEMEN

If the cattle business is just a hobby, then fancy feeding fads and frills are okay. You can't afford them, however, if you're in business to make money. The Triplett & Pringle Cattle Company of Amarillo, Texas is very definitely in business to make money and doing quite well at it, too. So, no feeding practice will be adopted by them until they are first convinced that it will make a worthwhile addition to profits.

Evidently, they are so convinced about MoorMan's Range Minerals because here's what they say about them:

"We are very glad to be able to report that our first year's use of MoorMan's Range Minerals has been very satis-

factory. We have used it in our feeding operations at Bovina, Texas and with the cattle grazed at Farley, New Mexico.

"This year with our feeding, grazing and wheat pastured cattle we have no doubt used the mineral with at least 6,000 cattle. It has shown better condition and gain and has been especially valuable where our seasons have been abnormal as to moisture conditions. Some of the best results we have noticed have been on the cattle on wheat pasture.

"The Angus cattle on our ranch at Bovina, Texas

have had the mineral constantly for eight months and have shown an outstanding gain. Truly yours, Triplett & Pringle Cattle Co., by J. S. Triplett, Jr."

Such a statement speaks for itself. Why not find out what benefits you can expect from incorporating MoorMan Supplements into your feeding plans? No obligation; merely mail the coupon to Moorman Mfg. Co., Dept. B-101, Quincy, Illinois.

MOORMAN MFG. CO., Dept. B-101, Quincy, Ill.

Please rush me details about Moorman Mineral feeds () for cattle on range () in feed lots.

Name

Address (or R. F. D.)

County

Town

State

MoorMan's

MINERAL FEEDS

February, 1943

dation already forced by shortage of man power."

Secretary Mollin asked the association to express itself on the question of renewal of the reciprocal trade agreements law. The answer came by way of a resolution urging annulment of law, or if not, then any agreements made should be subject to Senate ratification.

From here on the convention became a round of discussions, which, in the open, dealt with three main subjects: transportation, price ceilings and their effect on production, and man power.

Transportation

Chester H. Gray, director of the National Highway Users' Conference, Washington, D. C., the opening speaker on transportation, said that transportation has not been given enough importance by the government. In a long war, he said, transportation ranks second only to food in importance, with the military third. In a short war, the military leads in importance, with transportation second, and food third. Metal shortage, he said, is the main trouble behind transportation difficulties.

In a rather flexible way, he said, metals were in the year previous to war allocated to certain uses which were at the moment and still are of great importance, but since these allocations were made other issues have arisen which demand the use of metals in as important ways.

Rubber is the second shortage which handicaps transportation, he said, and this shortage is due to allocation of certain metals which are not being delivered with the speed necessary to build and equip synthetic rubber plants. The answer to the rubber problem, he concluded, is not to save rubber when transportation is vitally needed but to speed up the program to produce rubber.

In the round table discussion on the subject, led by Albert K. Mitchell, Bell Ranch, New Mexico, former president of the American National, these were the questions and answers:

W. H. WHINNERY (Colorado): Why can't speeds on trucks carrying perishable goods and feeds be increased or drivers allowed to use their own judgment?

MR. GRAY: Effect on tires of reduced speeds is still a mooted question; data are not yet complete. Bureaucracy at Washington, once having sent out an edict, isn't going to change its dictum, unless presidential or congressional pressure is brought to bear.

WILL J. MILLER (Kansas): Why are tires being sent to Mexico?

MR. GRAY: That is part of our good-neighbor relations.

MR. MOLLIN: According to Mr. Wallace, "we are sharing our scarcity."

J. ELMER BROCK (Wyoming): It is reported that 60 per cent of our rubber is allocated to export. Is that true?

MR. GRAY: Yes, that is part of our co-operative enterprise with our allies.

PRESIDENT BOICE: Will the transportation of livestock be better or worse next fall?

MR. BLAINE (the association's traffic manager): Worse. The thing to do is to co-operate with the railroads in every way and give as much advance notice of all shipments as possible.

HUBBARD RUSSELL (California): Don't the bureaucrats in Washington know what the situation is?

MR. GRAY: Yes, but they feel they are right in allocating metals to other uses first.

LOREN BAMERT (president of California Cattlemen's Association): There are actual starvation losses due to the slow-up of trucks under the new speed rules.

CHAS. E. COLLINS (Colorado): Who is responsible for the Detroit registration for certificates of war necessity?

MR. GRAY: The Office of Defense Transportation, but not Mr. Eastman. Mr. Eastman has a level head.

A. A. SMITH (Colorado): Are local boards really going to have authority to issue gasoline?

MR. BLAINE: Yes, and you will have right to appeal.

The subject was then referred to the transportation committee and a resolution was adopted urging "(a) that the speed of trucks transporting livestock and other perishable products be increased to a speed at which they will operate to the maximum efficiency in the conservation of rubber, parts, and man power; (b) that trucks in intrastate commerce be given priorities on equal terms with trucks engaged in interstate commerce; (c) that forms of the Office of Defense Transportation which livestock producers are required to execute be simplified and adapted to practical use; (d) that we are unalterably opposed to issuance of any Office of Defense Transportation order or regulation restricting any form of transportation to a given distance, such as 250 to 300 miles, and now being considered by federal authorities, and that the criterion, in our opinion, must be the ability of the various carriers to move the traffic the most expeditiously and efficiently."

Price Ceilings and Production

There are two purposes of the Office of Price Administration: (1) to establish prices which will foster the kind and amount of production wanted, and (2) to hold the price front. This explanation was given by Charles M. Elkinton, food price division, Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C., the opening speaker on "price ceilings and their effect on production." He said that the parity price formula does not make sense in the livestock production goal. What then? The answer is to keep prices of beef in line with other competitive products and be sure that the price is consistent with the production goal; that is, that the price is such that it will foster the production which is wanted. Mr. Elkinton theorized that producers should have some assurance of the prices to be paid for livestock in the future and asked what the stockmen thought of a plan to announce prices on fat stock three, six, or nine months in advance.



Charles M. Elkinton, Washington, D. C., (left) gave frank answers to a barrage of questions. Right: Chester H. Gray, Washington, D. C. . . . "Metal shortage is the main trouble behind transportation difficulties."



Mr. Elkinton was questioned from the floor. Stockmen wanted to clear up some of their ideas in the puzzle of parity, prices, and production. How many of the OPA are ranchers? one of the cattlemen asked. Several men in the meat division of the OPA had experience in the livestock production field, was the answer. E. A. Kelloway, secretary of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange, suggested that something would have to be done about the ceiling prices on well finished cattle, because, he said, feed costs are now so high that on the present basis there will be a loss to feeders. Mr. Elkinton assured him that something would be done if there is a loss on the present basis.

What is parity? asked Mr. Myers. It is the price that you get for your product that will buy as much of the goods you use as that price would have bought in 1909-14, said Mr. Elkinton. There is no such thing as parity for agriculture, said Mr. Myers. To have parity would be to overturn the whole economic structure of the country.

Who would do the grading on the live animals for the ceilings or floors on fat stock that you suggest? Mr. Coffee asked Mr. Elkinton. I am not certain but it would probably have to be done by the government, replied Mr. Elkinton.

In the ensuing discussions on ceilings, no opinion came from the floor on Mr. Elkinton's question of guaranteed prices.

H. M. Conway, market expert of the National Livestock Marketing Association, speaking from the platform, said that "we should be cutting down our cattle inventories. We should move calves and yearlings to feed-lots." He said that instead of the government's estimate of an increase of 8 per cent in cattle on feed in the Corn Belt, he would rather consider it 8 per cent less.

The packers' viewpoint on price curbs was given by H. R. Davidson, of the American Meat Institute. As a group, he said, packers have taken no definite stand on live-animal ceilings, but they have expressed various individual opinions. Generally, they believe, he said, that the reflection of dressed beef ceilings has the price of live animals too high, but the packers have had to

MAN POWER, transportation, and production troubles did not dampen stockmen's spirits. Top, left to right: J. H. Tippet, Asotin, Washington; Secretary F. E. Mollin, Denver, Colorado; Robert Lister, Paulina, Oregon, president of Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon. Center: Charles E. Murphy, Spicer, Colorado, president of Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association; Ernest B. Ham, Piedmont, South Dakota; Dr. B. F. Davis, secretary of the Colorado association. Bottom: D. E. Clark, Ashton, Idaho; R. J. Hawes, Boise, Idaho, president of Idaho Cattlemen's Association; Frank L. Winzler, Boise, secretary of the Idaho association.

operate even at a higher level than the reflected price. He explained this by saying that it is purely a question of how long the packers will be able to pay the high prices that demand has created.

The attitude of the stockmen on the subject of ceilings and their effect on production was summed up in a resolution opposing ceilings on live-animal prices and suggesting periodic adjustments where necessary on dressed beef ceilings to encourage feeders to increase cattle weights.

Man Power

Opening the discussion on man power, Dick McCusker, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, Denver, drew into the open the stored-up complaints and criticisms of the administration particularly of the selective service program. He quoted from Directive 14, issued last November by the War Manpower Commission. That document, he said, should straighten out all the difficulties in the stockman's employment problems. But the cattlemen felt otherwise.

Directive 14 orders that those engaged as dairy, livestock, and poultry farm workers who are not deferrable on grounds of dependency or other than occupational grounds, and for whom replacements would be required and are not available, should be deferred on occupational grounds. But deferments are not being made, according to the stockmen.

Even the Tidings amendment to the "eighteen-nineteen year old" draft law is not being observed, Mr. Collins said. He asked why this law, which reads that essential agricultural workers shall be deferred, was not being followed.

The law is there, admitted Lieutenant Colonel Seward Iliff, of Selective Service national headquarters, Washington, D. C., and draft boards should abide by it. He asked that specific cases where workers were not being deferred, as the law requires, be referred to the War Manpower Commission.

A. D. Brownfield, New Mexico, leader of the discussion, said that he thought the trouble was that too many instructions have been piling up in local board offices. The members don't have time to read them, he said.

Floyd Lee, New Mexico, suggested reorganization of local boards so that each board would have at least one representative from each of the major industries in the district in which it operates. Several stockmen approved this idea.

Captain Wm. Reed, of the Selective Service in Denver, suggested that many of the stockmen's troubles might be rectified by the appeal boards. He said that stockmen and their employees have every right to use the appeal and should use it if they feel that they have a legitimate appeal. Mr. Clinite, regional farm placement officer, also addressed the group on the man power subject.

Several speakers from the floor be-

lieved that some kind of insignia, uniform, or designation should be given to necessary ranch workers to eliminate any stigma that the boys might be subject to because they were not in the army but instead were doing a vital job at home. A resolution on this point suggested "a form of identification that would show their service in a capacity as important as bearing arms." The resolution also urged furloughs for essential men in the industry and suggested a plan of induction that would assign key men to agriculture.

Welcoming the cattlemen to Denver were Colorado's new governor, John C. Vivian, who said he wanted to see the old fashioned law of supply and demand in operation again, and Charles P. Murphy, Spicer, Colorado, president of Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association. Response was by R. J. Hawes, Boise, Idaho, president of Idaho Cattlemen's Association.

Albert Evans, Washington, D. C., recently returned from Red Cross work in China, addressed the cattlemen.

President Boice Re-elected

The stockmen in their closing session re-elected Frank S. Boice, Sonoita, Arizona, to head their organization for a second term. They renamed as first vice-president A. D. Brownfield, Deming, New Mexico. Second vice-presidents are: A. A. Smith, Sterling, Colorado; Andrew Johnston, Alpha, North Dakota; J. B. Matthews, Albany, Texas; J. Sheldon Potter, San Francisco, California; and Herbert Chandler, Baker, Oregon. F. E. Mollin, Denver, Colorado, was renamed executive secretary, and Chas. E. Blaine and Calvin L. Blaine, traffic manager and assistant traffic manager, respectively.

Twenty-five resolutions were adopted

by the cattlemen. They appear in summarized form in the editorial section of this number. Two of them were in the nature of pledges. One, addressed to President Roosevelt, pledged "the utmost effort to help bring the war to as speedy an end as possible." The other, addressed to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, assured him "that we will do all in our power to market cattle during 1943 in sufficient numbers to equal or exceed the goals which have been recently set." Both resolutions were sent to the President and Secretary Wickard by telegram. A telegram from Secretary Wickard to the convention expressed appreciation for the co-operation of the American National during the past year and congratulated the convention on its annual meeting.

The reading and adoption of the resolutions provoked little discussion. One of them, opposing reduction in meat rates to the western coast, met the objection of Harry B. Coffee, former congressman and new president of the Omaha Stock Yards Company. Explanation of the association's stand was given by Chas. E. Blaine, association traffic manager, and the resolution was adopted with few dissenting votes. Prominent ranchers living even as far east as Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico, favored the resolution, while the opposition came from the tier of states immediately west of the Missouri River where direct interest is not so great.

Committee Reports

Headed by Manville Kendrick, of Sheridan, Wyoming, the auditing committee submitted a report "finding all accounts in true order."

"We have carefully gone over the proposed budget of the American Na-



President Boice receives the yearly Yavapai Cattle Growers' check for \$1,000. R. Earl Evans, Glendale, Arizona, president of the Yavapai organization at right is handing over the \$1,000, the tenth check in that many years. Bruce Brockett, Rimrock, Arizona, (center) chairman of board of directors of Yavapai organization.



Left: Charles E. Collins, Kit Carson, Colorado; Mrs. J. Sheldon Potter, San Francisco, California; Mrs. John MacKenzie, Denver; John MacKenzie, Denver; E. L. Burke, Jr., Genoa, Nebraska. Right: A. D. Brownfield, Deming, New Mexico; Neil O. Graham, Las Cruces, New Mexico; Hubbard Russell, Maricopa, California; Alfred M. Collins, Crestone, Colorado, standing.

tional Live Stock Association for 1943 and fully approve of the increase contained therein. We feel that it is absolutely necessary that the budget be increased in order to take care of the growing expense of the association and the increase in work-load brought on by the war emergency. We therefore urge everyone to do his part in meeting this budget which will not only maintain the association but also add to the reserve account during 1943."

The annual report of the committee on brand, theft, and sanitary regulations in interstate commerce, submitted by Chairman Russell Thorp, secretary of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association, reads as follows:

"Your committee believes in continuing action in advancing the resolutions passed by this committee at the convention last year in Salt Lake. These recommendations were:

"A uniform system of brand inspection.

"A proper bill of lading with each shipment.

"A standard brand recording index in each state.

"This committee feels that the rapidly developing black markets for meat in this country present a real danger to livestock producers. It is only a short step from illegally butchering beef to butchering stolen animals. We believe that stockmen everywhere should take such steps as are necessary in stopping a market which is unlawful, unpatriotic, and a potential source of serious losses.

"We believe that the enactment of the national cattle theft law has been of great value to the cattle industry in reducing loss by theft. We praise the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in enforcing this law, and we urge this agency to explain this law to the various local law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

"This committee has had its attention called to agencies which promote the

sale of tatoo outfits plus a so-called registration of these tatoos in Washington, D. C. We find that the outfits are sold at from three to ten times their commercial value and that this so-called Washington registration is often not done and of no value if accomplished. We urge stockmen and farmers to adopt and record a legal brand with their proper state authorities.

"The committee recommends that every state adopt such laws and regulations as will provide some method of identification of all livestock moving in interstate or intrastate commerce; that this identification be either by brand inspection, or uniform bill of lading, or both. Further we recommend that all livestock moving in interstate commerce and used for breeding purposes be inspected and determined free of disease.

"This committee recommends the Kleberg law providing for central market brand inspection and urges its prompt application to all markets where range livestock is consigned.

"This committee has carefully considered the locker system of meat storage and recognizes the possibility of using this facility for handling illegal meat. We ask that a committee from each western state be appointed to study this new business and to report at our next convention methods of handling this facility."

Legislative Committee Report

The legislative committee report was given by Vice-President Dee Brownfield, chairman of the committee:

"Very little new legislation came up in the Seventy-Seventh Congress that made it necessary to call the full legislative committee to Washington. However, many new issues affecting the livestock industry were injected into the picture by administrative bureaus. These were of sufficient importance to cause President Boice to ask individual members of

the committee to make hurried trips there from time to time to confer on the problems involved.

"In April, Wm. B. Wright, of Nevada, was sent to Washington where he met other representatives of the sheep and cattle organizations and with them conferred with Major General Hershey on a much needed change in the regulations of Selective Service so that necessary and experienced ranch help might be deferred as key men in order that the food and production program from the standpoint of the livestock industry could be more advantageously maintained. Although too many of our ranch helpers either volunteered or were drafted before any regulation was promulgated affording relief, we may feel sure that the influence of these gentlemen was the forerunner of the action that later got some results.

"This delegation may also be given credit for obtaining from the Office of Price Administration a more flexible sugar regulation so that ranchers could register as institutions, thus saving much time and eliminating ration cards and other regulatory details.

"Guided by resolutions of our association, Mr. Wright filed a comprehensive statement before the Senate subcommittee on agricultural appropriations urging that reductions be made on non-essential federal expenditures.

"In June, Albert Mitchell, Chris Abbott, Jay Taylor, E. A. Kelloway, and Dee Brownfield met in Washington and conferred with Secretary Wickard, Under Secretary Hill, and OPA Director Henderson and some of his staff, and discussed in detail the effect the new price ceiling would have on the future supply of beef, particularly that produced through the feed-lots. They urged more flexibility in ceiling prices in order to meet the situation confronting the industry from increased prices of feed and labor. Further, it was pointed out that the price range between

grades was not sufficient to warrant finishing cattle in feed-lots for prime meat, and that there was nothing to be gained for the consumer by placing ceiling prices on live animals.

"At this time Floyd Lee and Dee Brownfield appeared and testified before the House Public Lands Committee, urging the passage of S. 2599, an act authorizing the head of the department or agency using the public domain for war purposes to compensate holders of grazing permits or licenses for losses sustained by reason of such use of public lands for war purposes. These two men also appeared before the Office of Defense Transportation urging a change in the truck regulations in ODT orders 3, 4, and 5 which at that time denied the use by trucks of highways unless loaded to capacity out-bound and in-bound.

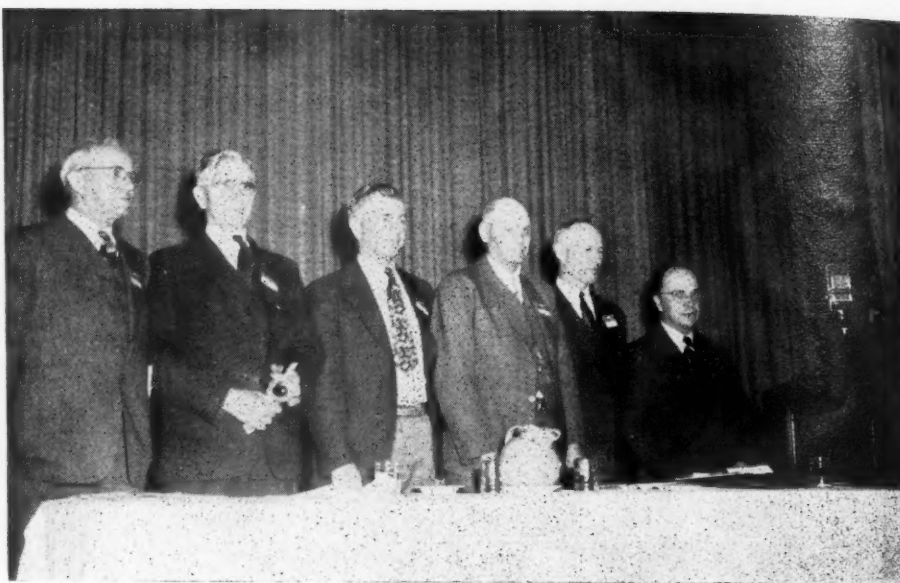
"The results of these various visits have been somewhat beneficial in every instance. It is very important to keep the fact well established that the range livestock industry is one separate and distinct from general farming or dairy farming.

"On November 19, Mr. Wright appeared at Glenwood Springs, Colorado, before the Senate sub-committee conducting hearings on public lands administration, for the purpose of stating our position concerning Senate Bill 1030, known as the Johnson forest bill. The effectiveness of our appearance at this hearing can best be measured by the statement that not a single objection by any stockman was raised as to the principle of the Johnson bill, nor did a single stockman uphold the contention of the forest officials that such legislation was unnecessary or that the Forest Service should retain its arbitrary authority to adjust permits for distribution."

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT BOICE

OUR INDUSTRY HAS JUST COMPLETED one year of operation under war conditions. It has not been a happy experience. With each succeeding beef price ceiling order, our uncertainty over future marketing conditions has deepened, and, with the development of critical shortages of man power, transportation, and essential machinery and supplies of all kinds, it has seemed at times that the situation was becoming hopeless; that it would soon be impossible to continue to produce the tonnage of beef required in the efficient prosecution of the war. On the bright side it should be recorded that the ranges of the West, with the exception of the extreme Southwest, have an abundance of feed; that crops of hay and grain have been excellent; and that, at the price ceilings now established on beef, there exists an almost unlimited demand for our product.

This industry of ours, which has



Line-up of some officers. Left to right: J. B. Matthews, Albany, Texas; A. A. Smith, Sterling, Colorado; Herbert Chandler, Baker, Oregon; Andrew Johnston, Alpha, North Dakota, second vice-presidents; A. D. Brownfield, Deming, New Mexico, first vice-president; Frank S. Boice, Sonoita, Arizona, president.

known little of government control except on the public ranges of the West, which has prized its freedom and fought effectively to retain it, now, at the end of one year of war, finds the prices of its products and of most of the things it buys under complete government control, and it faces the prospect of controls being extended into more and more phases of its life as the war progresses.

Let us admit frankly that most of these controls are necessary if disastrous inflation is to be avoided, and at the same time firmly resolve that they shall not become a permanent part of our industry but shall be abolished as soon as the war emergency is over. Our effort must be to make them equitable and effective and to see that they do not curtail the necessary production of beef. Your association's efforts during the past year have been directed to that end.

No one is more aware of the disastrous results of runaway inflation than the cattleman or more willing to do his part to avoid it. He remembers vividly 1921 and 1930. This time inflation threatens as a result of fewer and fewer things to buy and more and more money in the hands of the consuming public with which to buy. The obvious answer is either to increase sharply the production of consumer goods or to decrease effectively consumer purchasing power. The former is impossible if we are to prosecute the war to a successful conclusion; the latter has to date been politically impossible. In spite of price ceilings on most agricultural commodities and rather feeble attempts at wage stabilization, consumer purchasing power continues to go up, and with it we have ever increasing pressure on price ceilings, both from the consumer who is able and anxious to buy in increasing

amounts and from producers and manufacturers who are caught in the squeeze between increasing costs and fixed price ceilings. Let no one mistakenly believe that price ceilings alone will control inflation; we must have taxation or enforced savings or both on the incomes of the consuming public. Yes, that means a lower standard of living for everyone; that is the price we pay for war.

Let us review briefly the story of price ceilings on beef. Perhaps it will give us a better understanding of what lies ahead. The original order, issued in April of last year, froze beef prices at both wholesale and retail, at the highest prices existing during March. It gave packers and retailers individual price ceilings on each grade and cut of beef. It is important to remember that in a free market there are always temporary price inequalities between the different packers and between the various regions of the country; inequalities which under the normal play of supply and demand correct themselves quickly. These inequalities were frozen into our price structure. It is also important to note that March is normally the month of the narrowest spread between the prices of the upper and lower grades of beef. That narrow spread was also frozen into our price structure. Most of the subsequent difficulties, for those of us interested primarily in production, stem from these two facts.

Modifications of the original order were not long in appearing. The retailers were caught in a squeeze between their ceilings and the wholesale ceilings—a squeeze so tight that they could not operate. The modifying order maintained retail ceilings, reduced wholesale ceilings, and forced the packer and

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

feeder to roll back the reduction on the producer. It also further reduced the already too narrow spread between the upper and lower grades of beef.

I suppose it was inevitable that, with demand increasing, seasonal short supplies of cattle, and packer grading what it has always been, extensive up-grading of beef would develop. However that may be, we did have it, and the correcting order requires grading according to the specifications of the Department of Agriculture for standard grades of beef. Grading and ceiling enforcement at wholesale seem now to be fairly satisfactory; retail ceiling enforcement still leaves much to be desired.

By mid-summer, the price inequalities between packers and the increasing difficulty in getting the necessary amount of meat for the armed forces and lend-lease had become problems of first importance. This was particularly true of pork; to a somewhat lesser extent of beef. With short supplies of livestock and a great consumer demand, those packers with government contracts were buying to fill them, and all packers were trying to buy enough livestock to retain their domestic outlets by continuing to supply their demand for meat. Those with the higher ceilings had the edge in the markets; those with the lower ceilings went short of livestock. There were many financial failures among packers as a result. This condition could not be allowed to continue, as all packing facilities would be needed to handle the big runs of livestock during the fall and winter. It led directly to the demand on the part of the independent packers for price ceilings on live animals.

To those of you not intimately acquainted with the forces at work in Washington, it may well sound absurd that such a nightmare as price ceilings on live animals could be advocated by anyone as a solution of anything. To those of us who know so well the intricacies of our marketing system, it is absurd, but I can assure you that the danger was at one time very real. The

Office of Price Administration was for a time sold on the idea that price ceilings on livestock were necessary. The representatives of your organization fought this proposal with every means at their command on the ground that it was unnecessary if other corrective measures were taken and that the confusion resulting from the extreme difficulty of administration would result in a serious decrease in the production of meat. Working with and through the joint livestock committee which represented the great majority of the livestock producers of this country, our opposition was effective. With the return of short supplies of livestock, the proposal may come up again. If it does, I am confident it can be defeated.

But if price ceilings on livestock were not to be used to protect the operating margin of meat packers, some other method had to be found. It became a question of either controlling the prices of all livestock all the way back to the producer or of effectively curbing the civilian demand for meat. With either method selected, it was necessary that the price ceiling inequalities between packers be smoothed out. There was much agitation for meatless days as a method of curbing civilian consumption, but from the start the officials in authority frowned on this method as both inequitable and ineffective. They very wisely chose civilian rationing instead. If properly administered, rationing has the double advantage of being entirely equitable and of being readily adjustable so that supply and demand will meet at ceiling prices.

It was announced in September of last year that civilian rationing of meat would be started soon after the beginning of the new year. As a kind of stop-gap until the rationing method could be perfected, the packer limitation order was issued. This order limited packer sales of beef for civilian consumption to 80, and later to 70 per cent of 1941 sales for the same period. This order undoubtedly helped in providing the gov-

ernment with its meat requirements, but at the same time it forced large areas of the country to go without meat. In those districts where there are few if any federally inspected packing plants, cattle and hogs ready for slaughter are beginning to back up in the country. With the need for meat as it is, an intolerable situation is developing. It can be corrected by civilian rationing. Civilian rationing must be started at the earliest possible moment.

Early in the summer your representatives warned OPA officials that the narrow price spread between the different grades of beef established in the original price ceiling order and subsequent amendments would result in the marketing of feed-lot cattle at lighter weights and with less finish, with a consequent serious reduction in the tonnage of beef produced. It was also pointed out that this same factor, narrow spread between grades, together with the uncertainty of future cattle prices under beef price ceilings and the threat of price ceilings on live animals was having a very disturbing effect on cattle feeders and would probably result in the failure of feed-lots to refill when the cattle in them were marketed. At subsequent conferences these warnings were repeated, but it was not until market statistics showed a sharp decline in the average weight of slaughter cattle—a sixty-pound reduction in the live weight of fed steers at Chicago at the end of October—that OPA became concerned. The feed-lot situation is still obscure, for, while stocker and feeder cattle in large numbers have passed through the central markets in the last six months, there is no way of knowing how many of these cattle went into the feed-lots and how many went on pasture to be roughed through the winter.

At long last, in early December the revised beef price ceiling order was issued to become effective December 16, 1942. It is a very creditable piece of work and will, I think, correct most of the faults of previous orders. It estab-



Left: A. A. Smith, Sterling, Colorado. Right: Albert K. Mitchell, Albert, New Mexico, former president of the American National, at microphone; and Chester Gray, Washington, D. C.

lishes beef price ceilings by zones, with suitable differentials between zones, and thus eliminates the price ceiling inequalities existing between different packers; it increases the spread between the upper and lower grades of beef to an extent which should give substantial encouragement to feeders to put more weight and finish on their cattle; and it establishes beef prices which should approximately maintain the then existing level of livestock prices.

I feel that the beef price ceiling situation is in fairly good shape, that the prices and conditions established in this last order should be accepted by our industry, and that the adjustments necessary to operate under it should be made quickly. There may be minor changes found necessary after the industry has had more experience working under it, but nothing in the immediate future indicates they will be other than minor.

But let us not fool ourselves; the producer of feeder cattle is the end man in this deal. With beef prices fixed, any increase in the cost of fattening or processing our product, whether that increased cost be for feed, labor, transportation, taxes, or supplies, must in the end be borne by the producer. It may at some future time be necessary to ask for increased beef price ceilings if the whole production process is not to break down as a result of increased costs; but I hope, sincerely, that economic stabilization will be successful enough to prevent that.

In all the conferences on price ceilings—and there were many of them—your representatives have opposed those proposals which would decrease the production of beef and have approved and advocated those which tend to increase production. We were not interested in profits for the industry except to the extent that reasonable profits are necessary if production is to continue; we were not interested in price as such, but only in price as it affected production. Effect on production has been the test by which the position of this association was determined. I have every reason to believe that you, the members of our organization, approve that criterion.

May I say a word regarding those officials of the Office of Price Administration with whom we have been dealing. Theirs is a very difficult task and a tremendous responsibility. Always under fire from some quarter, they have gone steadily ahead with their job and slowly, very slowly, order is coming out of chaos. In the main they have shown an intelligent understanding of the producer's problem. My one serious criticism is that they have attached too much importance to the protection of the consumer by holding price ceilings inviolate and have not given enough consideration to the effect of price ceilings on production.

But that same criticism must be made of most Washington thinking on food production. Food ranks high in any list of the materiel needed to win this war.

We must have it in adequate amount for our armed forces and for our civilians, and we are being called on for food in ever increasing amounts for our fighting allies. The promise of food to the nations overrun and stripped by our enemies will do much to keep up their resistance, and its delivery, once they are freed of the invader, will make them extremely valuable supporters of our cause. Food is a military weapon of first importance! It is high time something is done about its production.

And, yet, our officials, even at this late date, do not seem to realize what is happening in the country. There are essential agricultural operations everywhere being curtailed because of shortages of man power, rubber, and farm machinery and supplies. It is as absurd to ask farmers to produce more food without adequate man power as to expect the commanding general in the Solomons to hold his positions with one company of marines; as absurd to ask farmers to produce more food without adequate supplies of gasoline and tires for his pick-up as to expect our soldiers to catch the fleeing enemy on foot; as absurd to deprive farmers of essential machinery as it is to send a machine gun crew into battle with a pocketful of ammunition. There is much truth in Secretary Wickard's statement, "Food will win the war and write the peace"—if we produce it. Everywhere there are signs pointing to a decrease rather than

**IF HE'D HAD A SHOT OF
CUTTER BLACKLEGOL, HE
MIGHT BE HEADED FOR THE
LIVESTOCK SHOW INSTEAD—**

**BLACKLEGOL'S
RECORD**

Since its introduction in 1934,
we have been able to confirm
less than one loss per million
calves immunized with
Blacklegol.

CUTTER LABORATORIES
M. K. Cutter
President

With every calf worth more these days—to you and to the country—now's no time to be gambling with any "just as good" blackleg vaccine.

Just *why* should Cutter Blacklegol be your choice? The reason lies in its special chemical fortification. Because Blacklegol is aluminum hydrox-

ide adsorbed, it is held in the animal's tissues longer and released slowly. Thus it acts like repeated small doses of ordinary vaccine.

This special adsorption process was developed—and patented—by Cutter. Insist on Blacklegol! 10¢ a dose; less, in quantities.

CUTTER Laboratories • Berkeley, Calif. • Since 1897

to an increase in food production during 1943, and, if that happens, the responsibility rests with those who, unwittingly, planned it that way.

The appointment of Secretary Wickard as "Food Czar" is an indication of growing concern in official Washington over the seriousness of the food situation, but I should think he would be a very unhappy "czar." The powers he needs to get food production are in the hands of others. If there is a question of price involved, he must argue with OPA; if increased amounts of farm machinery are needed, he must go to WPB; for transportation, to ODT; and for labor, to WMC. Responsibility without corresponding authority can accomplish little.

This picture would not look so dark, perhaps, if all agencies were working harmoniously in the execution of a master plan. But such is not the case. Petty jealousies and inordinate ambitions are found in too many places, the partisan political and social reformer are still at work, and the old army game of buck-passing is played by experts. This situation calls for a reorganization which combines responsibility and authority in the same hands with a boss at the top who has the authority and is tough enough to make these agencies work together. Perhaps the director of economic stabilization is such a boss, but I see no evidence yet that he has a master plan to work by or the authority and the toughness to do the job.

As we look ahead into 1943, it is, of

course, impossible to foresee all the issues and problems we must face. There are some, however, which are already before us. The Reciprocal Trade Act will expire in June of this year, and there will undoubtedly be an effort to extend it. It is my thought that the position of this association should be that these trade agreements are in fact treaties and as such require the ratification of the Senate before becoming effective. It is extremely important that, in the adjustment period after the war, agriculture should have this protection.

It seems inevitable that the organized farm groups will soon renew their effort to modify parity in so far as it effects price ceilings by including the cost of agricultural labor in the parity formula. This effort will probably be successful, but it seems to me that it is very unwise and untimely. I am not thinking of the theoretical fairness of including wages in the formula, for any equitable parity formula must include agricultural wages; but I am deeply concerned over the effect at this time of such modification on our whole economy, and the effect that even its attempted modification must have on our relations with the general public. No parity formula can establish parity prices which, if used as minimum ceilings, will protect agriculture as a whole against increasing costs or give any assurance of balanced agricultural production. If this effort to modify parity is successful, effective price control of many commodi-

ties will be prevented and the cost of living will go up. This, in turn, will justify labor in demanding higher wages, and, the political complexion of Washington being as it is, we will be merrily on our way up the spiral of inflation which must inevitably lead to disaster. It is well to remember that in the eyes of the public, organized agriculture is on the same level as organized labor, each grasping for all it can get during the war emergency, and that labor thinks of agriculture in the same terms that agriculture uses when it speaks of labor. Will not an attempt to pass this kind of legislation be conclusive proof to non-agricultural people that organized agriculture is demanding its pound of flesh? I don't want this association even partly responsible for the results which may well follow an attempt to modify parity upward at this time. I feel that this association should take no part in this legislative fight but should insist, rather, that price ceilings be fixed at the point which will give the desired production when all factors entering into production are taken into consideration.

We should all be thankful that, with the national need for beef as it is, our industry has the largest beef producing plant in its history to supply that need. Cattle numbers in the country are now close to the record breaking figure of 76,000,000 head, representing an increase during the past year of over 1,000,000. Slaughter also increased during the year to approximately 28,000,000 and a fur-

These days of shortages—

CAN YOU AFFORD TO LOSE A SINGLE ANIMAL?

Prevent losses by vaccinating with the finest, most dependable vaccines and serums you can buy!

If you've been losing stock, from one trouble or another, see your Cutter dealer. Chances are there's a Cutter Product that can stop your losses.

Cutter pioneered the field of animal disease control, actually originated many of the vaccines and serums now in general use. And remember, too, Cutter Products are made by a laboratory which produces vaccines and serums for *human* use, where highest standards are imperative.



If your local veterinarian or drug store cannot supply you, order direct from nearest Cutter branch . . .
Los Angeles • Seattle • Ft. Worth • San Antonio • Denver • Calgary • Regina • Vancouver • Winnipeg

ther increase this year is highly desirable. The secretary of agriculture has asked for an increase in marketings this year to the 30,000,000 mark. With 30,000,000 cattle marketed during the year, 1943 should end with approximately the same number of cattle in the country which we now have. If this goal is to be attained, it means for most of us that the number of cattle on our individual ranches should be the same at the end of this year as at the beginning. I have the timidity to suggest that in the interest of everyone concerned, this marketing goal is too low and that the industry might well embark on a program of gradual reduction of cattle numbers which should continue until the war is won. Such a program would, without risk of materially curtailing our productive capacity, provide now and for the duration of the war, while it is so greatly needed, the maximum amount of beef, and it would place each of us and our industry as a whole in a better position to make the adjustments back to a peace time economy when the war is over. Its success depends on the decision of each individual cattleman.

I have in this report discussed in some detail the problem that this association is facing or will face in the near future. In the report to follow, Secretary Mollin will tell of the activities of the association during the past year. I can't close this report without paying the highest tribute to the work of Mr. Mollin, Mr. Blaine, and our other employees. Throughout a very trying year they have stood constantly on the firing line anticipating the difficulties of cattlemen and doing everything humanly possible to ease and solve these difficulties. This association and cattlemen everywhere owe a deep debt of gratitude to these loyal men.

Even as this war has brought new trials and new perplexities to each of us in the operation of our ranches, so has it brought new difficulties and new problems to our association. Whatever measure of success your officers have had in dealing with these problems has been due in part to the very solid support which you, the members, have so readily given them and in part to the very fine reputation of the American National Live Stock Association for following sound policies. Let me assure you that it has been a great honor and a real pleasure to serve for the past year as president of that kind of organization.

A SESSION and a few moments between sessions. Top: Secretary Mollin, Denver; T. B. Augustine, Chadron, Nebraska; Edward N. Wentworth, Chicago, Illinois, director of Armour's Livestock Bureau. Center: E. G. Hayward, Cimarron, New Mexico; Mrs. Horace H. Hening; Horace H. Hening, Albuquerque, New Mexico, secretary of New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association. Bottom: The executive committee in session.



SECRETARY MOLLIN'S ANNUAL REPORT

EVER SINCE I HAVE BEEN YOUR secretary, almost fourteen years, I have been hoping that I could make one report of a year's activity at the end of a year of fairly normal operation. Either the word "normal" is passing out of use in this country, or "emergency" has become normal, because as we look back over the past fourteen years there has not been a period that we could call normal, by the old standards. Last year, I believe more calls were made upon your association for activity than ever before in my experience.

President Boice has given you in considerable detail a report of part of the activities, and I shall try to supplement his report and fill in the gaps here and there. He told you of our co-operation with a joint livestock committee. We shall continue to co-operate with it if problems arise that call for such joint action. I am glad to report that the action of this committee has almost always been unanimous and that there has been very little difference in attitude on major pending problems between the producing interests from the different sections of the country. That has always been my experience in the past, the only major conflict between the West and the Corn Belt states being the price of feeder cattle. Our efforts in the price-fixing matter have been fully as much to protect the feeder as ourselves, as it is essential that every part of the industry be given a square deal.

Price Ceilings

Without question, the activity in regard to price ceilings was the most important matter which occupied our time during the year. I should like to call your attention to the fact that the demand for ceilings on live animals came very early in the game. When I was first called to Washington by OPA early in February for a preliminary conference on ceilings, I found that some of the eastern packers were advocating live animal ceilings at that early date. They later made a very strenuous effort to put over their program. We met their later organized effort by the formation of the joint livestock committee referred to above, and without that emergency committee I am afraid that this packer group might have accomplished its purpose. While eastern packers took the lead in this matter, we understand that they received quite general support from the packing industry throughout the country.

It is with considerable regret that we have noted within the last week or two further activity by certain packer interests in the same direction. It had been our hope that the new beef ceilings would bring about the stable condition necessary to promote the greatest possible production of beef. Continued agi-

tation by the packers with respect to these ceilings cannot help but create uncertainty in the Corn Belt, and that uncertainty is always reflected by premature marketing of livestock or failure to replenish empty yards. After a release by the American Meat Institute had been issued recently, in which it claimed that current cattle prices were still too high in relation to the new beef ceilings, the *Associated Press* made a survey around the country and reported some packers as laying the current beef shortage to the failure of OPA to establish live-animal ceilings. Anyone familiar with the industry knows that just the reverse would be true and that the placing of ceilings on live animals would merely extend to the producing branch of the industry the same confusion that has existed for many months in the processing end, and which we believe the new ceilings should go a long way toward halting. It is hard to understand why packers would run up the prices, as claimed, above a reflected ceiling basis when only an amount equal to 70 per cent of last year's supply can be sold for domestic use and the remaining 30 per cent plus any increase in current volume over last year must go to the government at ceiling prices.

We have urged that the carlot discount of 75 cents per cwt. on government purchased beef should be decreased or eliminated, and we believe there is a very good chance of this being done soon. That, together with a more rigid enforcement of the new order, so that it applies alike to all operators, large and small, should put the processors in a better situation. In view of the fact that we were warned repeatedly that OPA planned to install ceilings reflecting a top price of \$15, Chicago, and the fact that the top has hovered around the \$16.50 mark ever since the ceilings went into effect, it seems evident that OPA is trying to work the matter out in a manner to promote production.

Beef Grading and Federal Inspection

One of the most interesting developments in connection with the original price ceiling order is the effect it has had upon beef grading. After the trouble due to the up-grading of beef, referred to by President Boice, it is interesting to note that the first packers to request the grading of all their beef by official government graders were the very ones who have for years most strenuously opposed the government grading program. I am interested in this matter, not only from the standpoint of what is happening now, but also from the point of view of what will happen when the war is over. In view of the clearly demonstrated impracticability of grading of beef by the packers themselves, it seems to me unthinkable that we should go back when the war is over to the old system of dual grading—part by the government and part by the packers. I believe that an industry conference—packers, producers, and feeders—should

decide the most practical way to continue a universal grading program and then take steps to make it effective.

Another interesting development of the war is the placing of so many packing houses under federal inspection. The law was amended last summer to ease the requirements for federal inspection, and up to January 1, 135 local packers have already qualified and more are in process of qualifying. This enables them to participate in government business (no meat is bought either by the army or lend-lease except that processed under federal inspection) and does not limit their business to the restricted amount available for civilian use. It likewise makes it easier for the same packers to get federal grading of their meats. The grading is not entirely confined to federally inspected plants, but only such plants can use "U. S." on their roller stamp in designating the grade. While the law which eased these requirements is to be operative only for the duration, or a short period thereafter, in my opinion, many of the plants which have taken advantage of it will later take whatever further steps are necessary to comply with the regular BAI requirements.

Meat Rationing

It has been a decided relief to the industry that the administration has moved in the direction of meat rationing and has withheld its endorsement from the several isolated efforts in various sections of the country to establish meatless days. We have co-operated with Mr. Pollock, of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, in opposing these efforts. Considerable publicity was given a few weeks ago to an American Legion local supporting a weekly beefless day. I called Mr. Pollock's attention to the matter and suggested that he get in touch with both the local and national organizations to prevent the move becoming nation-wide, only to learn that the term "beefless" didn't refer to meat at all but to the popular sport of crabbing about what is going on. However, the publicity which reached Denver referred to it in the literal sense of going without meat.

Parity Prices

One of the problems looming up in the future is to secure a revision of the parity price base that will place agriculture generally on somewhere near a par with labor and industry. This the present concept of parity fails to do. Aside from limited revision which is now proposed—that is, to include agricultural labor in the parity base—and which can be accomplished either by OPA order under the amendment to the law passed a few months ago or by a new amendment, the main effort will not be made at this time. Washington letters indicate that the inclusion of agricultural labor in the parity base is almost certain in the near future through one of the methods suggested above.

We should give serious thought to this matter, so that when the time for action comes our industry may be placed on a fair base relative to others. Possibly beef cattle parity should be figured only on the kind of cattle that makes beef which goes over the block; in other words, eliminate canner and cutter cows, which includes all the dairy cast-offs.

Man Power

We took part, early in the game, in calling attention to the serious situation that was developing in regard to man power on the farms and ranches. Mr. Wright, of Nevada, a member of our legislative committee, went to Washington late in April as a member of a joint committee to take this matter up with Selective Service headquarters. Since then we have had repeated contacts with that organization, and representatives of Selective Service have attended many livestock meetings in the West. With regard to this matter, there has been a lack of co-ordination between Selective Service headquarters and the local draft boards which must now be corrected if the new recognition of the need for agricultural labor is to be effective. Selective Service headquarters has for months past announced a policy of approving deferment for key agricultural workers. The local draft boards, however, have claimed that their instructions and the demands made upon them for quotas left them, to some degree at least, powerless to exempt even these key workers. While it is true that the greatest loss of labor has been to war plants, it is likewise true that the Selective Service draft on the remaining skeleton crews, mostly the top men, has hurt more than a percentage comparison of total losses indicates. Only to a limited degree can capable ranchmen be replaced by the remnant of labor that is available; that is, old men, boys, women, or roving groups of workers, such as is proposed by the Agricultural Department as one way of meeting the situation. It is doubtful if even now official Washington realizes the full extent of the liquidation already forced by shortage of man power. Throughout the agricultural regions there have been thousands of sales on farms devoted to general agricultural production, including livestock, and many of these farms will not be in production this year. In the strictly livestock country there have been a lesser number of such complete liquidations but many forced reductions in numbers.

Sanitary Regulations

It is a pleasure to report that there has not been any great activity relative to the matter of sanitary regulations governing the importation of animals or meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists. You will recall that more than a year ago a representative of the BAI was sent to the province of Tierra del Fuego to inspect conditions there with a view to permitting entry

of dressed lamb from that island province of Argentina. However, the Rio conference was in progress while Dr. Fladness, the emissary, was down there. Argentina's attitude at that conference was such that no further pressure has been applied for bringing in even this limited amount of meat, and no public announcement made as to the findings of Dr. Fladness. You might say that the only activity in this regard has been by radio commentators and magazine writers, most of whom know absolutely nothing about the subject and, hence, feel fully qualified to discuss it in complete detail. It will forever remain a mystery to me why the speaking and writing fraternity seems to accept without question the foreign version of an issue of this kind and to assume that the home folks who insist upon maintaining adequate sanitary barriers have nothing but an ulterior motive in mind.

Tariffs

President Boice mentioned the fact that the reciprocal trade agreement law will expire next summer, and, no doubt, effort will be made to extend it for the third time, although administration authorities are now claiming that some twenty-five agreements made under this law during the past nine years have the full force and effect of treaties and, hence, cannot be revoked by Congressional action—another example, and a very good one, of the misuse and abuse of the powers granted to the Executive by Congress. Certainly when Congress passed the reciprocal trade act authorizing the President to enter into such trade agreements with other countries it was not the intention of Congress that what it was creating should be forever beyond its future control. The association at this convention should decide its policy with respect to this important matter.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that very late in the final session of the seventy-seventh Congress, the third war-powers bill was sent up to the Hill by the Executive. It dealt largely with Presidential powers over tariff laws. The House Ways and Means Committee, which must initiate legislation dealing with the tariff, considered this matter at several different sessions, each time refusing to take action. Finally, with renewed pressure from the White House, the matter was reopened and hearings held. We were represented at these hearings by Ezra Benson, of the National Counsel of Farmer Co-operatives, and he was also authorized to speak for most of the major livestock and co-operative groups, as very limited notice was given. At the conclusion of the hearings, it was announced that the House Ways and Means Committee had decided not to take any action. Possibly the issue will be renewed in the new Congress, but it would seem that the chance of granting the Executive power to do away with all tariffs and sanitary

restrictions would be less in the new Congress than in the old.

Priorities, Etc.

There have been many varied activities of lesser importance throughout the year. We have handled priority problems of various descriptions, dealing with windmills, fencing materials, horse-shoes, ammunition, pipe, etc. There are some major problems pending now in this field which will have our immediate attention.

Traffic

Our traffic counsel, Charles E. Blaine, reported to the executive committee this morning. The most important case handled during the past year was *Ex Parte 148*, the hearing on which was in progress at the time of our convention a year ago. Mr. Blaine led the fight against the full proposed increased rates being applied on livestock and its products, and, largely due to his efforts and those who joined with him, the increase on those commodities was limited to 3 per cent. Now a proceeding is pending and will be heard early in February to wipe out the increase gained a year ago. This is based on the large earnings of the railroads during the past year. The OPA and the Department of Agriculture are initiating the proceeding. We immediately fell in line to support it. As a matter of fact, for some weeks we have been discussing the question of the most opportune time to initiate such a proceeding, and we are indeed glad that the government itself jumped the gun and is leading the way.

ODT

It is not necessary to devote a lot of time to discussion of the Office of De-

(Continued on Page 25)

COLORADO MEETING

COLORADO STOCKMEN FEEL pretty much at home at the Shirley-Savoy Hotel. They sat in on convention Number 2 January 18 to hear talks on Colorado cattlemen's troubles two days after they had heard problems discussed at what we shall term convention Number 1. Convention Number 1 was the meeting of the American National Live Stock Association, held at the same hotel. Number 2 of course was the meeting of the Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association. We shall now see how national problems are state problems, and vice versa.

Man power at the Colorado cattlemen's meeting was the top subject, as it had been at the American National gathering. Other problems, too, were like those at convention Number 1: Colorado cattlemen pledged action to meet meat goals; wanted furloughs and deferments for their cowboys; felt that truck speed regulations should be modified; opposed disturbing the nation's sanitary embargo;

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



WHAT'S A STEER WORTH?

Some people say a steer is worth what it costs to produce, plus a profit—but every business man, whether he be a farmer or a merchant, knows that anything is worth only what somebody will pay for it and its cost is a minor factor.

Do the producers of steers, hogs and sheep get the full value of their animals when they sell them at the nation's market places? The answer to that question depends on these factors:

- (1) How much the consuming public is willing to pay for the products which are made from the meat animal.
- (2) What portion of the consumer's dollar goes back to the producer?
- (3) Is the work of converting live animals into meat and by-products performed efficiently?

- (4) How much profit does the packer get?

Approximately 75 per cent of what packers receive for meat and by-products goes back to the producers of livestock.

The efficiency of the packing industry is generally recognized and few industries are able to maintain themselves on as small a portion of their total income as is the packing industry.

Packers' profits over a long period of years have averaged less than two cents per dollar of sales and less than 6 per cent on capital invested in plants, equipment, etc. The smallness of packers' profits and the large portion of the total revenue which goes back to the producers are positive evidence that natural laws of competition and good business management are operating to make a steer net its producer all that the public says it is worth.



ARMOUR AND COMPANY

wanted production of synthetic rubber rushed; objected to industry's "pirating of ranch labor;" thought the BAI should remain where it was before transfer to the new Food Distribution Administration; asked for necessary equipment to make the ranch go; wanted to get in on post-war meat sales to the world to avoid domestic surpluses; demanded Senate confirmation of trade pacts. Other resolutions commended stockyards and commission men for valuable services and suggested using surplus game to alleviate the meat shortage. Several others dealt with public lands.

The delegates were interested in the recommendation of Arthur Allen, president of the state's board of stock inspection commissioners, that more brand inspectors be hired and higher salaries paid and that the brand inspection fee be raised from 5 cents to 10 cents per head.

Speakers included Dewey Harmon, chairman of the state USDA war board; H. M. Clinite, regional representative of the War Manpower Commission; Warren J. Hammel, of the food rationing division, OPA; F. E. Mollin, executive secretary of the American National, Denver; R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, Chicago; F. M. Simpson, Swift and Company, Chicago; H. R. Davison, vice-president, American Meat Institute, Chicago; Earle G. Reed, general livestock agent of the Union Pacific, Omaha.

The Colorado association president is Charles P. Murphy, Spicer; the secretary is Dr. B. F. Davis, Denver. Registration, half the usual number, was 110.

A few days later the forest advisory board of the Colorado stockmen's association met with the forest advisory board of the Colorado Wool Growers' Association. The groups urged a larger kill of Colorado game to help solve the meat shortage and preserve range land for domestic livestock. They also adopted a number of the resolutions previously passed by the Colorado and the American National associations. They likewise met at the Shirley-Savoy.

ASSOCIATION NOTES

AMERICAN NATIONAL OFFICERS IN WASHINGTON

Executive Secretary F. E. Mollin of the American National Live Stock Association is in Washington, D. C., to check up on priorities for ranch supplies, the income tax as affecting ranchers in drought areas, the concentrated feed situation, and the transfer of the meat inspection division of the Bureau of Animal Industry to the new Food Distribution Administration, in the latter matter particularly to ascertain if the transfer has any possible bearing upon importation of dressed meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists. He will join Traffic Manager Chas. E. Blaine in a conference with ODT officials. Mr.

Blaine is in Washington also on the matter of *Ex Parte 148*, representing the livestock industry in a request for cancellation of the 3 per cent increase in freight rates on livestock granted a year ago. The case was reopened by the Department of Agriculture and the OPA.

ARIZONA HEREFORD SALE

The quality of the offerings at the All Star Selection Hereford Show and Sale, held in Phoenix on December 14, were the best ever presented in that section of the country, according to E. B. Stanley, animal husbandman at the University of Arizona. "The intensive herd improvement program which has been under way in this state during the past ten years is now beginning to show some very concrete results. These Arizona breeders are now producing stock that is on a par with the leading Hereford breeders in the country." Twenty-seven halter bulls averaged \$742; nineteen halter heifers, \$630; forty-four range bulls, \$251; and the ninety head averaged \$475.

OPPOSES CHANGE IN EMBARGO

The United States Live Stock Sanitary Association, meeting in Chicago in December, registered opposition to any change in the embargo provision of our laws preventing imports of animals or meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists. The resolution referred to the "enviable position" of this country with regard to health of livestock, gained only at great cost, and declared that the greatest contribution the livestock industry can make is to continue to supply ample meat and dairy products. It held that any lessening of safeguards on imports would constitute a great hazard to the livestock industry.

WYOMING EXECUTIVE MEETING

The executive committee of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association meeting in Cheyenne about mid-December adopted resolutions asking for an increase in allocation of steel for the manufacture of necessary repairs and replacements of farm machines and suggesting some kind of "enlistment in the armed services and furlough to inactive duty of essential men of military age now in agricultural and livestock production, until a more practical plan is provided to meet minimum labor demands."

YEAR'S SHORTHORN BUSINESS

Report of the year's purebred Shorthorn cattle business, released by the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, reveals a 17 per cent upswing over last year in volume of business and a continuing rise that has been in progress for the past five years. Pedigree recordings show a 15.26 per cent increase. Transfers of ownership—a reliable index of business activity—are up 16.3 per

cent, while new men coming into the breed climbed from 975 last year to 1,287 in 1942. There were half again as many Shorthorns sold this year as last year—at an average of \$219.61, or \$32.59 per head more than a year ago. Iowa, perennially the leading Shorthorn state, kept first place in pedigrees and transfers, followed by Illinois, Minnesota, Kansas, Indiana, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Michigan.

NEW MEXICO CONVENTION

The twenty-ninth annual convention of the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association will be held at Albuquerque, New Mexico, on March 12-13, with an executive board meeting the evening of March 11. Tom Clayton, Separ, president of the association, invites all members of the association and all cattle growers in New Mexico to attend. The program will include prominent speakers and open discussions on such subjects as manpower, transportation, and land policies.

CATTLE SURVEY BY AIR

The Gunnison County Stock Growers' Association is sponsoring an aerial survey of cattle ranges in the Gunnison, Colorado, area to determine where snow-bound cattle are located so that riders can go after them. The association has put on previous surveys and through them has located many snowbound cattle in high ranges which would have frozen to death had riders not brought them down.

NEW BOOKLET

"Farm Security with Shorthorns" is the title of a new booklet prepared by the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Chicago, Illinois. It is a publication of thirty-two pages devoted exclusively to horned beef Shorthorns. The booklet is available to all who are interested in the breed as well as to those now breeding Shorthorns, and may be had on request of the association.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY—

- 4-5—New Mexico Wool Growers' Ass'n convention, Albuquerque.
- 5-6—Arizona Cattle Growers' Ass'n convention, Phoenix.
- 14-15—La Grande registered purebred beef cattle sale, La Grande, Ore.
- 26-27—Northwest Nebraska Registered Hereford Ass'n sale, Valentine.

MARCH—

- 5-6—National Angus show and sale, Chicago.
- 10-11—Kansas Live Stock Ass'n convention, Wichita.
- 12-13—New Mexico Cattle Growers' Ass'n convention, Albuquerque.
- 13—Crawford Hereford Breeders' Ass'n sale, Crawford, Neb.
- 16-17—Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Ass'n convention, Ft. Worth.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Published monthly in the interest of the livestock industry by the American National Live Stock Association Publishing Company.

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

Subscription: One Year, \$1; Three Years, \$2.75;
Six Years, \$5. Advertising Rates on Request.

F. E. MOLLIN.....Managing Editor
DAVID O. APPLETON.....Editor
LAWRENCE F. MOLLIN.....Business Manager

Officers of the American National Live Stock Association:

President—FRANK S. BOICE, Sonoita, Ariz.

First Vice-President—A. D. BROWNFIELD, Deming, N. M.

Second Vice-Presidents—HERBERT CHANDLER, Baker, Ore.; ANDREW JOHNSTON, Alpha, N. D.; J. B. MATTHEWS, Albany, Texas; J. SHELDON POTTER, San Francisco, Calif.; A. A. SMITH, Sterling, Colo.

Executive Secretary—F. E. MOLLIN, Denver, Colo.

Traffic Manager—CHARLES E. BLAINE, Phoenix, Ariz.

Assistant Traffic Manager—CALVIN L. BLAINE, Phoenix, Ariz.

Vol. XXIV February, 1943 No. 9

NEW PRICE CEILINGS

EVER SINCE CEILINGS WERE first imposed on beef early last summer, the entire livestock and meat industry has been in a confused state. The original ceilings, freezing prices on the basis of certain March levels and creating a spread in beef carcass prices in some areas of as much as 5 and 6 cents per pound, were inequitable. Naturally beef moved most freely to the packer and the retailer with the higher ceilings. As the year progressed, the demands for meat for export and domestic use increased, so that soon there was a real scarcity in some areas, aggravated by the inequalities mentioned above.

Unfortunately, as time went on, feeders became more and more hesitant, not knowing how to plan their operations. Then some minor adjustments were made to relieve squeezes, and these were rolled back largely upon the producer, as the OPA started in with the firm determination of not piercing a ceiling once established, no matter what pinches might be developed thereunder. Consequently, during the summer and fall, a great many two-way cattle, which ordinarily go to the feed-lot for sixty to ninety days, went direct to the packer, who had urgent need for the beef, while the feeder was too hesitant to offer stiff competition. Hence potential beef supply was diminished at just the wrong moment.

Therefore considerable relief was felt all around when the OPA finally came out with new beef ceilings early in December, adjusted on a zone basis, with various freight and other differentials to meet local and special conditions. Probably some bugs will be found in the new system. It is impossible to escape them all. But, generally speaking, it appears after a month's trial that the new ceilings

are much more equitable than the old. Beef-cattle prices have been maintained on a fairly steady basis since the new order went into effect, although there has been some drop on the extreme tops.

Packers assert that live-animal prices are still out of line with the new ceilings; but this claim has been advanced all summer, and it seems only reasonable to discount it somewhat, particularly since packers' financial reports do not bear them out. It might not be amiss to point out that the amount of beef which can be distributed for civilian use is limited to 70 per cent of the volume so distributed a year ago. Consequently, the remaining 30 per cent plus any increase in current volume over that of a year ago must be held for the army or lend-lease. Under this set-up, it seems strange that the packers would compete strongly enough for business which can go only to the government at ceiling prices to run the market on live animals up as has been charged.

There has long been an insistent cry from certain packer groups for ceilings on live animals in order to improve their own situation, but it has brought no results. The consideration of live-animal ceilings has apparently been dropped. The new order makes no mention of any such program. Throughout the long negotiations for the new price ceilings, producer representatives stuck to their guns with the contention that live-animal ceilings merely would add to the confusion and instead of aiding in the desired result of increased production would have exactly the opposite effect. Perhaps modification of that part of the new order which provides for a discount of 75 cents per cwt. on government orders for meat and closer control of some of the small operators would ease the packers' troubles and give them a better break.

Distribution of meats still is not all that it might be. Meat rationing on a voluntary basis does not entirely do the job. But when the coupon rationing is established, the meat shortage in various

acute areas should be substantially relieved, as it is the intent that all shall be treated alike.

Producers and feeders generally seem to have accepted the new order in good spirit. What they want is not the last dollar of profit that can be squeezed out of the deal but a stable basis on which to operate, and this they have not had until recently.

At the moment, production is the one thing of prime importance. Producers, feeders, and packers all will do their part. It is therefore encouraging that the administration is beginning to recognize the need for a fair deal all around and so to modify regulations and orders as to bring the desired result. Any arbitrary attitude that does not give due recognition to the actual situation confronting all producing groups must necessarily end in failure.

RESOLUTIONS

THE PROBLEMS THAT THE WAR has brought to the livestock industry and other questions and what the cattlemen believe should be done about them are presented here in their most compact form. The following paragraphs are a digest of the resolutions adopted at the recent convention of the American National Live Stock Association in Denver.

The convention dispatched two telegrams during the meeting, one to President, pledging "utmost effort to help bring the war to as speedy an end as possible," and another to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, assuring him that they would do all in their power "to market sufficient cattle during 1943 to equal or exceed the goals the secretary had set." These pledges may be considered as resolutions.

"Pirating by industry of agricultural workers" was objected to in a resolution asking the War Manpower Commission to provide more effective control over the shift of agricultural workers to industry. The Selective Service was asked to provide mandatory deferments of agricultural workers. Another resolution dealing with manpower urged the secretary of agriculture to secure furloughs for essential workers in the industry and suggested adoption of a plan of induction that would assign key men to agriculture and provide "a form of identification that would show their service in a capacity as important as bearing arms." The stockmen urged that the work week be extended to a basis comparable with those of our allies, "in fairness to the armed forces and the allies."

A price ceiling on live animals was "unalterably opposed," with the explanation that such ceilings would only extend to the livestock industry the confusion that has existed for months in the meat trade. Ceiling prices and spreads in the various grades, it was



Poor Richard Speaks
about
WAR BONDS

"For age and want, save while you may;
No morning sun
lasts a whole
day."

Save now
while money is
plentiful, buy
War Bonds every
market day
and have money when dollars are hard
to find.

U. S. Treasury Department



suggested, should be adjusted from time to time to induce increases in weights of slaughter cattle.

Annulment of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, which expires next June, was requested, or, said the resolution on the subject, if trade agreements are made in the future, they should be made only with the consent of the Senate.

A resolution dealing with truck regulations, stating that certain regulations now in effect are defeating conservation of rubber, equipment, and manpower and resulting in waste, urged that the speed of trucks carrying livestock and other perishable products be increased to the speed of maximum efficiency, that trucks in intrastate commerce be given priorities on equal terms with trucks in interstate commerce, that ODT forms be simplified, and that no restriction be placed on distance of transportation by truck.

Another resolution referring to transportation expressed opposition to reduction in existing rail rates in the territory Denver to Pacific coast and intermediate points, opposed increase of loading and unloading charges at the Chicago stockyards, asked for amendment of the term "public interest" in the Interstate Commerce Act to embrace livestock and related industries, and commended the railroads in their efficient service in the present emergency.

Elimination of overlapping government agencies and the greatest possible reduction in numbers of federal employees were urged by the cattlemen. Cessation of non-essential government projects was also requested.

Other resolutions asked the War Production Board to allow sufficient raw materials for minimum equipment re-

quirements of the industry, demanded the necessary metals to put rubber plants into operation, and objected to the transfer of the Bureau of Animal Industry to the new Food Distribution Division.

The association again insisted that there should be no modification of the embargo against the importation of livestock or dressed meats from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists.

The stockmen asked that beef be included in the shipments of food that will have to be made at the conclusion of the war "to prevent disastrous results to the industry until necessary adjustments in production can be made."

One of the resolutions expressed regret at the loss of members of the association and friends of the industry, naming George Russell, Elko, Nevada; Ed Ellison, Elko, Nevada; John Curry, San Francisco, secretary of the California Cattlemen's Association; John H. Hatton, of the Forest Service; and W. H. Weeks, general manager of the Kansas City Stock Yards.

THE WORK WEEK

THE NEED FOR MAN POWER ON every side, in the armed forces, in industry, and in agriculture, has become so acute that something must be done to relieve it. For that reason, the American National Live Stock Association, in a resolution adopted at its recent convention in Denver, declared that "the only means available to make possible the necessary and sharply expanded production of food, machines, and all the other important sinews of war" is the extension of the work week. That is also the

common sense view of the American people generally.

In the case of food, we are now beginning to realize that curtailment in its production is facing us at a time when we must have more of it. And the chief reason for this is lack of man power. Lack of man power may stand in the way of attaining the goal in food production set by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard.

Agricultural producers have always worked long hours, and little increased output could come from lengthening their working hours. But the hours of industrial labor are still preciously close to their peace time standard, and much labor still operates under make-work practices built up by the unions. Labor is reluctant to give up the advantages it believes it has gained. The short work week may have been a proper expedient in a dull peace time era. Make-work practices can never be justified.

Yet, if labor's program had in it fewer of hard and fast regulations, the industrial worker would do what the man who does not work under arbitrary rules does. He would, where there was need for it, work longer and harder. Labor practices built on a basis that will not bend at all under the strain of war cannot last. Resiliency of that basis, and regard for needs of the nation in war, as well as needs of the worker in peace, is the soundest plan.

Labor, like agriculture, has pledged itself to the proposition of all-out work to win the victory. If attaining that end requires changes in labor's working hours, those changes must be made. To the greatest output we are all dedicated.

PACKER INCOME

Dollar sales and other revenue of Armour and Company of Illinois and its subsidiaries (including the Delaware Company) reached the record of \$1,300,009,016 in the fiscal year ended October 31, 1942. Revenue was up 40 per cent from 1941 and was considerably above the previous record of slightly over \$1,000,000,000 in 1919. Tonnage in 1942 increased about 10 per cent over 1941 while prices averaged about 30 per cent higher. Consolidated net earnings amounted to \$14,802,607 (after tax and before dividend payments) compared with \$15,111,410 in 1941. . . . Dollar sales of Swift and Company rose 38 per cent to \$1,409,405,770. Net income totaled \$16,972,721, or slightly under earnings in the 1941 fiscal year. . . . The Cudahy Packing Company reported the highest net sales and revenue in the company's history—40.7 per cent over 1941 and 73.1 per cent over 1940. Profit per sales dollar declined. . . . Net earnings of Wilson & Company were \$7,319,508 after all charges, as against net earnings of \$7,047,306 in the preceding year. Dollar volume of sales was largest in the company's history.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

La Grande Registered Purebred Beef Cattle Sale

Live Stock Commission Yards
La Grande, Oregon

Show, Sunday, February 14
Sale, Monday, February 15

Approximately 100 head are consigned to this sale. . . . Consignors are from most of the prominent breeders in Eastern Oregon.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ADDRESS

ROBERT F. BALL
Secretary

P. O. Box 882
La Grande, Ore

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON NOTES

TARIFFS

Before June 30 the administration will have to ask Congress to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act. When the act was extended three years ago, an amendment to require Senate ratification of agreements lost by only three votes. But administration officials contend that some twenty-five trade agreements entered into under the law have the "full force and effect of treaties" and cannot be abrogated by Congress. . . . The House Ways and Means Committee did not report out the bill for increasing President Roosevelt's power to suspend or alter import and immigration laws.

ENCOURAGING PRODUCTION

Secretary Wickard has modified the farm program a bit to encourage more production of corn and barley for livestock feeding. He is also encouraging additional meat production through a ceiling on corn prices to keep that commodity from advancing to a point where farmers would quit feeding and sell the corn instead. He has also made available an additional \$200,000,000 or \$225,000,000 credit to farmers and ranchers for the purchase of machines, livestock, seed, and other things needed to reach maximum production. The Department of Agriculture is putting on a drive to get every farm family to produce and preserve as much as possible of their entire food needs "without infringing on the output of food needed for war and city workers."

MORE FARM MACHINERY

Chairman Donald M. Nelson of the War Production Board "thoroughly agrees" that there should be an increase in production of farm machinery and has authorized 30 per cent more steel manufactured for the purpose. Secretary Wickard originally asked that farm machinery production be cut not below 50 per cent of 1941 production, but curtailment was fixed at 20 per cent of 1941. Chairman Nelson said that conditions since the Office of Civilian Supply acted on production in June have changed, and the program should be and is being enlarged.

EIGHT WAR UNITS

Liberalization of the requirements for agricultural deferments have been announced by the Selective Service bureau. Now local boards may in some cases defer an agricultural worker who produces as little as eight war units of essential products; heretofore sixteen units was considered the standard.

WICKARD APPOINTS FORESTER CHIEF

Secretary of Agriculture Wickard announced the appointment of Lyle F. Watts, former regional forester at Portland, Oregon, as chief of the Forest Service. In recent months, Watts has served as an assistant to Secretary Wickard. Watts was born in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, in 1890. He is a graduate of Iowa State College at Ames, Iowa, and entered the Forest Service in 1931 as technical assistant on the Wyoming national forest.

TREATY WITH MEXICO

The United States in December signed a reciprocal trade agreement with Mexico that removed the quota on cattle weighing 700 pounds or more and that on animals 200 pounds or less. The yearly quotas previously were 225,000 and 100,000 head, respectively. The rate of duty now is 1½ cents per pound in each case. On cattle weighing between 200 and 700 pounds, the rate was reduced from 2½ cents to 1½ cents a pound.

FEED SITUATION

The early season congestion in the marketing and crushing of soybeans has been relieved, according to the Department of Agriculture. Several steps taken during recent weeks to increase supplies of high protein meal and cake include: Limitations upon shipments of meal out of the Corn Belt, release upon inventory supplies of cake and meal, and restriction of sale of meal to manufacturers of mixed fertilizers for sale. Arrangements

have been made also for the crushing of soybeans outside the Corn Belt at plants customarily idle at this time. The department said that a recent survey shows that meal is moving from crushers as fast as it becomes available and "that there does not appear to be any sizeable quantities of meal in the hands of feed mixers or dealers." It is pointed out that an extra load is put upon vegetable proteins by reason of a relative shortage of animal protein feed. . . . Limitations on sales of oilseed meal and cake to ranchers have been eased so that ranchmen "shall not be restricted if such purchases are made in quantities and at intervals which are in accordance with purchases regularly made." . . . The American Feed Association, after a survey of the feed situation, said that the "immediate bottleneck" is lack of processing facilities.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZED

Completion of the organization of the Food Distribution Administration for its wartime functions has been announced by the Department of Agriculture. Merged in it, with Roy F. Hendrickson as head, are the Agricultural Marketing Administration, the food division and other food units of the War Production Board, the sugar agency of the Agricultural Conservation and Adjustment Administration, and units of both the Office of Agricultural War Relations and the Bureau of Animal Industry. Harry E. Reed is chief of the livestock and meats branch, one of nine commodity branches functioning under the general direction of C. W. Kitchen, formerly associate administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Administration.

Are you in the **BIG SCRAP**

*Let's turn
our scrap
into bullets
and
whip the Japs.
Do it today
and
hasten Victory.*



The Colorado Fuel and Iron Corporation

Makers of COLORADO FIELD FENCE

GENERAL OFFICES: DENVER, COLORADO

YOUR INCOME TAX

MANY RANCHERS AND FARMERS who never before paid an income tax will have to pay on their 1942 business. If an unmarried farmer or rancher took in \$500 during 1942, or a married one grossed \$1,200, he must make a report, although, of course, his net profit on this would be so low that no tax would result. But the gross and not the net income is the gauge for making a report.

This year there is an additional income tax called the victory tax—an additional tax of 5 per cent on gross income over \$624. Ranchers and farmers and their workers will pay the tax along with their other income tax on 1943 income. The tax does not apply to 1942 income.

A new deduction in the regular income tax return is permitted this year. It is for medical expenses in excess of 5 per cent of net income if not compensated for by insurance. There is a limit of \$2,500 for such deduction by the head of the family or \$1,250 for a single person.

The following comments on the income tax as applied to ranchers and farmers (the term "farmers" includes livestock raisers, operators of ranches and plantations, fruit and truck growers, and poultry raisers) are contributed by the Treasury Department:

Income

Farmers may maintain their records and file their returns of income on either the cash receipts and disbursements basis or on the accrual basis of accounting. A consistent method must, however, be employed. If a cash basis is used, Form 1040F, "Schedule of Farm Income and Expenses," is required to be filled out and filed in conjunction with Form 1040.

Use of Form 1040F is optional in the case of farmers who report income on the accrual basis. A farmer who reports income on the cash receipts and disbursements basis (in which no inventories to determine profits are used) must include in gross income for the taxable year (1) the amount of cash or the value of merchandise or other property received during the taxable year from the sale of livestock or produce which were raised, regardless of when raised; (2) the profits from the sale of any livestock or other items which were purchased; and (3) gross income from all other sources.

Under the accrual basis in which inventories are used to determine the profits, farmers' gross profits are ascertained by adding to the inventory value of livestock and produce on hand at the end of the year the amount received from the sale of livestock and produce, and miscellaneous receipts of income during the year, and deducting from this sum the inventory value of livestock and produce on hand at the beginning of the year and the cost of livestock and produce purchased during the year. All livestock, whether purchased or raised, must be included in inventory at their proper valuation. Livestock acquired for draft, breeding, or dairy purposes and not for sale may be included in the inventory instead of being treated as capital assets subject to depreciation, provided such practice is consistently followed.

If farm produce is exchanged for merchandise, groceries, or the like, the market value of the articles received in exchange is to be included in gross income. The value of farm products which are produced by a farmer and consumed by his family does not constitute taxable income. Rents received in crop shares are to be returned as income as of the year

in which the crop shares are reduced to money or the equivalent of money. Proceeds of insurance, such as hail and fire insurance on growing crops, are required to be included in gross income.

Amount received as loans from the Commodity Credit Corporation may, at the option of the taxpayer, be considered as income and included in gross income for the taxable year in which received. The election once made is binding for all subsequent years unless the commissioner approves a change to a different method of accounting. Amounts received under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, the Price Adjustment Act of 1938, section 303 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, and the Sugar Act of 1937 constitute taxable income to the recipients for federal income tax purposes.

Expenses

A farmer who operates a farm for profit is entitled to deduct from gross income as necessary expenses all amounts expended (other than those constituting capital expenditures) in the carrying on of the business of farming. The cost of feeding and raising livestock may be treated as an expense deduction in so far as such costs represent actual outlay, but not including the value of farm produce grown upon the farm or the labor of the taxpayer. Also deductible is the cost of seed, minor repairs to farm buildings (other than the dwelling of the farmer), and small tools used up in the course of a short period.

The cost of fuel and oil used for farm work, as well as repairs and maintenance of farm machinery, is deductible as a business expense; but the cost of farm machinery, equipment, and farm buildings represents a capital investment and is not an allowable deduction. The cost, however, may be recovered by depreciation allowances. In the case of a farmer, the farm dwelling is not depreciable, except such part of it as may be used directly in farming operation. The cost of gasoline, repairs and upkeep of an automobile if used wholly in connection with the taxpayer's farm operations, as well as depreciation thereon, may be deducted, but if an automobile is used partly for business and partly for pleasure or the convenience of the taxpayer or his family, the cost of operation may be apportioned according to the extent of the use for purposes of business and for pleasure or convenience, and the portion attributable to business will be deductible as a necessary business expense.

The cost of hired laborers and hired machines on a farm and the part of the board which is purchased for hired laborers are deductible. The value of products furnished by the farm and used in the board of hired laborers is not a deductible expense. Rations purchased and furnished to laborers or sharecroppers are deductible as a part of the labor expense. Amounts paid to persons engaged in household work to the extent that

Selling 110 Bulls

February 26, 27

Valentine, Neb.

This is one of the best offerings we have ever assembled for the sale. In the past, bulls from this territory have become known for their high quality such as is demanded by commercial breeders whose herds are of the highest rank.

Among the offerings are a number of herd bull prospects that will interest the most exacting buyers. Several of our breeders have reserved the cream of their crop for this special sale. Those in need of good bulls will find it to their interest to attend this sale.

Judging of sale bulls is by B. M. Anderson, of the American Hereford Association, on February 26; sale to be held February 27, at Valentine. Ample hotel accommodations for visitors. For catalog write:

ED BELSKY

Northwest Nebraska Hereford Ass'n

COL. A. W. THOMPSON, Auctioneer

their services are used in boarding and otherwise caring for farm laborers are deductible, but amounts paid for services of such employes engaged in caring for the farmer's own household are not a deductible expense.

Amounts expended in the development of farms, orchards, and ranches prior to the time when the productive state is reached may be regarded as investments of capital. The cost of planting trees, as well as the amounts expended by a farmer in the restoration of soil fertility preparatory to actual production of crops and the cost of liming soil to increase productivity over a period of years are capital expenditures; but the cost of commercial fertilizers, the benefits of which is of short duration and which have to be used every year or so, even after a farm reaches the productive state, is deductible as an expense.

Amounts expended in purchasing work, breeding, or dairy animals are regarded as investments of capital and may be depreciated unless such animals are included in inventory.

Losses

Losses incurred in the operation of farms as business enterprises are deductible from gross income. If farm products are held for favorable markets, no deduction on account of shrinkage in weight or physical value, or by reason of deterioration in storage is allowed, except as such shrinkage may be reflected in an inventory if used in determining profits.

The destruction by frost, storm, flood, or fire of a prospective crop is not a deductible loss in computing income, since it represents the loss of anticipated profits which have never been reported as income. Likewise, a farmer engaged in raising and selling livestock, such as cattle, sheep, and hogs, is not entitled to claim as a loss the value of animals that perish from among those animals that were raised on the farm, except as such

loss is reflected in an inventory, if used. If livestock has been purchased for any purpose, and afterward dies from disease, exposure, or injury, or is killed by order of the authorities of a state or the United States, the actual purchase price of such livestock, less any depreciation allowable as a deduction in respect of such perished livestock, may be deducted as a loss if the loss is not compensated for by insurance or otherwise. The actual cost of other property (with proper adjustments for depreciation) which is destroyed by order of state or federal authorities may likewise be claimed as a loss. If reimbursement is made by a state or the United States in whole or in part on account of stock killed or other property destroyed in respect of which a loss was claimed in a prior year, the amount received is required to be reported as income for the year in which reimbursement is made. The cost of any feed, pasture, or care which has been deducted as an expense of operation must not be included as part of the cost of the stock for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of a deductible loss.

If gross income is ascertained by the use of inventories, no deduction can be taken separately for livestock or products lost during the year, whether purchased for resale or produced on the farm, as such losses will be reflected in the inventory by reducing the amount of livestock or products on hand at the close of the year, which has the effect of reducing gross income from business by the amount of the loss.

If an individual owns and operates a farm in addition to being engaged in another trade or business or calling, and sustains a loss from the farming operations, such loss may be deducted from gross income received from all sources in determining the taxpayer's net income, provided such farm is not operated for recreation or pleasure.

If a farm is operated for recreation or

pleasure and not on a commercial basis, and if the expenses incurred in connection therewith are in excess of the receipts therefrom, the entire receipts from the sale of products may be ignored in rendering a return of income, and the expenses incurred, being regarded as personal expenses, will not constitute allowable deductions for federal income tax purposes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 18)

fense Transportation. We should like to believe that all the orders it has issued were truly devised to promote the war effort, although it taxes the credulity just a bit to do so. However, realizing that its task is a difficult one, we will give it the benefit of the doubt. The most glaring mistake made by the ODT was in the matter of working out the applications for certificates of war necessity. Now that this has been corrected, and the local boards, according to the reports we have received, are taking a reasonable attitude in attempting to meet the gasoline requirements of the producers, that is largely an historical headache. Both Mr. Blaine and the Denver office devoted much effort to this matter. In view of the fact that the local boards are reported to be granting sufficient gas to continue production on the scale urged by Secretary Wickard, I wonder if the whole system of record keeping requested by OPA, much of which of necessity will be "guesstimates," is necessary.

The latest trial balloon is a proposal to limit all truck operations to a maximum of 300 miles. This was advanced a year or so ago by the War Department but later abandoned. It has been under consideration by the ODT, and the railroads, Johnny-on-the-spot as usual, have filed a brief, not only supporting the 300-mile limitation, but urging that it

This Calf will go to market at a profit

Vaccination guards against disease when Straub's Vaccines are used. A generation of useful Straub service to the livestock industry assures highest quality, dependable products.

Bacterins and Vaccines since 1919

California Distributors: STETLER LABORATORIES, 4238 Stockyard Plaza, Los Angeles

W. F. STRAUB & COMPANY
BIOLOGIC LABORATORIES
JEFFERSON PARK P. O. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



be reduced to 250 miles. There have been numerous other orders which have been issued by ODT relative to truck operations, some of which have been entirely impractical but later adjusted upon strenuous protest.

Post-War Planning

President Boice has given you some excellent advice with regard to the handling of your business now, looking toward the post-war period. I received a good many letters inquiring what I think the picture may be. I do not pose as a prophet, but it seems reasonable to assume that, if we escape inflation to the degree experienced during the past war, we likewise will escape part of the headache that followed it. There are some other favorable factors in the picture that did not obtain then. If the Agricultural Department's forecasts as to cattle population are correct, we will already be started on the downward curve of cattle production when the war is over. There will be a tremendous demand for food to feed the starving countries, and while beef is not one of the commodities of which the department has asked increased production, but, instead, only increased marketing (and guarantees apply only to those products of which the department has asked increased production); yet it seems reasonable to suppose that when the war is over there should be sufficient strength in the important cattle producing areas of this country to insure that our industry shares in whatever benefits may accrue from buying food for the purpose of feeding the starving countries. After all, we will pay our share of the taxes and we should have our share of the benefits. There should be no such abrupt domestic slackening of business generally as previously experienced, because generally there will be a tremendous demand for consumer goods not available now, and plants will be busy supplying this demand once the conversion period is over. I do not mean to say that there will not be price declines. We all know that there will be. But I can see no way out of the position we will be in at the conclusion of the war except through steps taken to maintain national income on a relatively high basis. How else can we even service the huge debt that then will be accumulated?

Bureaus vs. Congress

As I look back over recent years, it is interesting to note to what an extent our Washington activities have switched from the consideration of legislation pending before Congress to matters of prime importance pending before the various emergency bureaus. During the past two years in particular, bureau activity has been all-important, and the rules and regulations they issue have had the full force and effect of law. Now it seems that we are approaching the turning point. The refusal of the old Congress to pass the third war-powers bill indicates that it is going

to keep closer rein on what is going on than it has in the past. This again is due to the misuse of blank-check authority granted. It indicates that there will be need for more activities on the Hill before congressional committees than has been the case in the past few years.

The Association

It is a pleasure to report that the association has, during the past year, enjoyed the best support in its history. We have continued to reach out and contact more of the smaller operators, so that there has been a gradual switch in that direction throughout the years that I have served you. Not nearly so large a proportion of our total revenue now comes from large operators as was the case a dozen years ago. Another most helpful factor has been the development of strong local associations which have affiliated with us. This has gone far in bettering our financial position.

The "Producer"

The PRODUCER, likewise, has a good year to report, with an all-time high in circulation and with four thriving state editions. Fortunately we have not been much affected, so far at least, by the curtailment of advertising of industries directly affected by the war. The livestock industry is one of the essential ones, and groups which serve it consequently are likewise essential, and it is from these that we get most of our advertising.

Conclusion

With the tremendous effort that is being made by our country and her allies, we can all hope that when we meet a year from now, if the war is not over, at least its end will be in sight. I hope that every one of you will co-operate to make the association stronger and better able to do the job that will confront us throughout the year and in the even more difficult post-war period.

IN THE BLOCK ARMY

By DOROTHEA V. SMITH

THE ARMY OF BLOCK LEADERS, or block mothers, in the United States is not a small one. Its ranks are made up of many thousands of wives and mothers who work through the schools of the nation to help achieve united civilian effort in vital programs such as the present "share the meat" campaign. A city block by itself is unimportant, and so is its block leader. But co-operation of individuals is vital in this war. So it is the job of the block leaders to spread information for the Office of Civilian Defense about programs in which the individual's co-operation is needed. Their work is important.

My initial experience as a block leader was in explaining the "share the meat" program. I live in a section of the country where there has not been acute

shortage of meat such as suffered on the west coast and in other areas. I found not one housewife who was not acquainted with the voluntary meat ration of 2½ pounds per week for adults, 1½ pounds for children six to twelve years old, and ¾ pound for children under six. However, it may be that in other parts of the city or the country block leaders may not have found such general knowledge of the plan.

Found Co-operation

All my block members said that an attempt had been made in their homes to cut down the consumption of meat. More than half felt that they were using only their share or less per week. The others said that a further attempt would be made to conform to the weekly quota. To those who feel that the public is slow to awaken or to co-operate in this war, I present this as an example of near-perfect civilian teamwork, and entirely voluntary at that. My block is not a rich man's block, nor a poor man's—maybe average. I am enthusiastic about the way in which it is co-operating, and about my zone, in which similar results were found, and about the country, in which full co-operation will come if it does not already exist.

The only real objection to the "share the meat" plan which I encountered was voiced by the mother of two boys, both under six years of age. She felt that not enough meat was allotted to children. Some doctors, she said, believe that it is essential for growing children to have as much meat as adults. This question we will leave to the medical profession, but I felt that she had made a point, as I also am the mother of two boys under six who have thrived on a diet with a large portion of meat. Perhaps when compulsory meat rationing comes, children's portions will be adjusted if necessary.

Food Demonstrations Needed

One of the things which the OCD wanted to find out through block leaders was whether housewives were interested in food demonstrations to teach methods of cooking substitute foods. Less than one-fourth of the housewives in my block were interested in food demonstrations, and I found that in other blocks in my zone this percentage was even lower. This reaction surprised me. Food demonstrations would help the average housewife to plan meals which contain the essentials for health—a harder job now than when food of all kinds was plentiful. They would also help the housewife to plan meals from substitute foods which her family would enjoy. Perhaps when women realize what a change will have to be made in menus when meat is not the food around which a meal is planned, they will welcome the food demonstration plan which the OCD suggests.

Explaining the point system of rationing will probably be next on the block leader's program.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

THE DENVER SHOW

Herefords sold well at the annual National Western Stock Show sale of Hereford breeding cattle. One hundred and seventeen buyers from twenty-seven states and Canada paid more than \$222,000 for 207 animals. The top bull at the sale was reserve champion of the show, Carlos Royal, consigned by the Thornton Hereford Ranch, Gunnison, Colorado, and bought by By-the-Way Ranch, Valentine, Nebraska, at \$8,750. Over-all average on sale was \$955. Average on 164 bulls sold was \$1,005; females, \$765. The top fifty lots averaged \$2,426. Top female was Baca Heiress 5th, out of the San Luis Valley Land & Cattle Company herd at Crestone, Colorado.

Twenty-eight pens of Aberdeen-Angus bulls totaling 141 head sold at auction during the Denver show for a total of \$41,285, with an average of \$293 per head. The animals were sold in pens-of-five style, although they were offered at buyers' choice, one or the lot. Forty-four lots of bulls selected from the show herds exhibited in the breeding classes sold at an average of \$350. Fifteen females averaged \$346. The top bull, selling for \$1,500, consigned by J. Garrett Toian, Pleasant Plains, Illinois, went to J. E. Barbey, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Top female, consigned by an Illinois breeder and going to a Kentucky man, sold for \$1,000.

The Allen Cattle Company, Colorado Springs, Colorado, shared in the awards in Shorthorn breeding classes at the Denver show with Merryvale Farms, Grandview, Missouri. Junior and grand championships were awarded to the Allen Cattle Company on a summer yearling son of Duke of Killearn, Divide Defiance. Senior championship on a two-year-old and senior as well as grand championship in the female division went to Merryvale Farms, while the Allen company earned junior championship with a daughter of Duke of Killearn.

The Wyoming Hereford Ranch of Cheyenne was awarded on a senior yearling bull the championship of the Hereford bull show at the National Western Stock Show in Denver. The animal was WHR Proud Princeps 9th, which received first prize ribbon in the senior yearling class before being named champion.

COFFEE HEADS OMAHA YARDS

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Union Stock Yards Company of Omaha, Harry B. Coffee, Chadron, Nebraska, former congressman from Nebraska's fifth congressional district, was elected president of the company in the place of W. H. Shellberg, who resigned. Mr. Coffee assumes office as president on February 1.

LIVESTOCK AT STOCKYARDS

	December		Full-Year	
	1942	1941	1942	1941
RECEIPTS—				
Cattle*	1,319,859	1,432,702	17,979,227	15,228,056
Calves	525,556	531,379	6,680,515	6,127,790
Hogs	4,224,566	3,638,576	34,415,107	30,659,197
Sheep	2,378,741	1,718,637	28,210,940	22,817,091
TOTAL SHIPMENTS†—				
Cattle*	668,985	590,238	7,978,736	6,240,840
Calves	239,754	225,505	2,810,318	2,447,238
Hogs	1,112,193	935,461	8,668,098	7,976,887
Sheep	990,658	698,964	13,763,208	11,235,877
STOCK AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS—				
Cattle*	330,416	340,248	4,030,193	3,389,103
Calves	79,749	103,031	1,074,212	1,036,811
Hogs	64,584	63,337	638,920	595,599
Sheep	324,396	199,293	4,788,294	3,741,415
SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION—				
Cattle*	982,403	1,004,418	12,347,369	10,945,906
Calves	475,671	456,773	5,759,694	5,461,042
Hogs	6,777,890	5,766,664	53,896,881	46,519,757
Sheep	2,174,601	1,570,556	21,624,689	18,124,531

* Exclusive of calves. † Includes stockers and feeders.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

	Jan. 1, 1943†	Dec. 1, 1942	Jan. 1, 1942	Five-Yr. Av.
Frozen Beef	122,175,000**	122,470,000	109,703,000	70,061,000
Cured Beef*	6,844,000	7,984,000	25,775,000	17,659,000
Lamb and Mutton, Frozen	35,058,000**	26,462,000	7,936,000	4,859,000
Frozen Pork	204,445,000**	85,341,000	176,154,000	187,329,000
Dry Salt Pork*	90,462,000**	55,464,000	76,950,000	66,936,000
Pickled Pork*	193,426,000**	151,036,000	215,434,000	230,303,000
Frozen and Cured Trimmings and Edible Offal	84,147,000	73,307,000	104,645,000	88,081,000
Lard	83,540,000*	53,251,000	181,237,000	160,760,000
Rendered Pork Fat	7,436,000*	4,183,000	5,274,000	
Frozen Poultry	188,037,000	193,263,000	218,392,000	171,402,000

* Cured or in process of cure. **FSSC and FDA report that they held 386,000 pounds of frozen boneless beef, 13,657,000 pounds of frozen lamb and mutton, 2,273,000 pounds of pork cuts, 1,192,000 pounds lard and rendered pork fat in cold storage warehouses outside of processors' plants. These amounts are included in total stocks. † Subject to revision.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Jan. 15, 1943	Dec. 15, 1942	Jan. 15, 1942
Slaughter Steers—Choice (1,100-1,500 lbs.)	\$15.50-16.75	\$15.50-16.50	\$12.75-14.50
Slaughter Steers—Good	14.25-15.75	14.00-15.50	11.75-13.50
Slaughter Steers—Choice (900-1,100 lbs.)	15.50-16.50	15.00-16.25	13.40-14.50
Slaughter Steers—Good	14.25-15.50	14.00-15.50	12.00-13.75
Slaughter Steers—Med. (700-1,300 lbs.)	11.75-14.25	11.25-14.00	10.00-12.00
Fed Young Steers—Gd.-Ch. (700-900 lbs.)	14.00-16.25	13.50-15.75	12.00-14.50
Heifers—Good-Choice	13.50-15.75	13.00-15.25	11.50-14.50
Cows—Good	12.00-13.00	11.50-12.50	9.00-10.00
Vealers—Good-Choice	14.00-16.00	13.50-15.50	12.50-15.00
Calves—Good-Choice	12.25-14.00	12.00-14.00	10.00-11.50
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Gd.-Ch.	12.25-14.25	12.50-14.25	10.00-12.25
Feeder and Stocker Steers—Com.-Med.	10.00-12.25	9.75-12.50	8.50-10.50
Hogs—Med. Weights (200-240 lbs.)	14.65-14.90	13.90-14.05	11.25-11.50
Lambs—Good-Choice	15.50-16.15	15.00-15.50	12.40-12.85
Yearling Wethers—Good-Choice	13.25-14.50	13.00-14.25	10.00-10.75
Ewes—Good-Choice	7.50- 8.85	7.40- 8.35	5.75- 6.75

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEATS

	New York Jan. 15, 1943	Chicago Dec. 15, 1942	Chicago Jan. 15, 1942
FRESH BEEF AND VEAL—			
Steer—Choice (700 lbs. up)	\$23.50-23.75	\$20.75-22.25	\$20.00-21.00
Steer—Good	22.50-22.75	19.00-20.50	19.50-20.50
Steer—Choice (500-700 lbs.)	23.50-23.75	20.75-22.25	20.50-22.00
Steer—Good	22.50-22.75	19.00-20.50	20.00-21.00
Yearling Steer—Choice	23.50-23.75	20.75-22.75	21.50-22.50
Yearling Steer—Good	22.50-22.75	19.00-20.50	20.50-21.50
Cow—Commercial	20.50-20.75		16.00-16.50
Veal and Calf—Choice	22.25-26.50	21.25-22.75	22.00-24.00
Veal and Calf—Good	20.00-25.50	19.00-21.00	20.00-22.00
FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON—			
Lamb—Choice (all weights)	28.00-28.25	25.00-28.00	18.50-21.00
Lamb—Good	26.50-26.75	25.00-28.00	17.50-20.00
Ewe—Good	15.25-15.50	21.00-24.00	9.00-10.00
Ewe—Commercial	14.00-14.25	19.00-22.00	8.00- 9.00
FRESH PORK CUTS—			
Loin—8-12 lb. average	28.00-28.75	27.00-28.25	19.00-20.00

Chicago has suspended reports on wholesale dressed meats

MARKETS

LIVESTOCK MARKETS

BY H. W. FRENCH

STATISTICALLY, 1943 LIVESTOCK prices got off to a good start. January cattle prices were the highest for the month since 1929, and the same was true of lambs, while the comparison for hogs went back to 1920. From the standpoint of profits the picture may not be so bright, because the producers and feeders are faced with increased labor cost, higher feed charges, and higher first cost for replacement stock. The corn price may be stabilized for the future to the advantage of the livestock feeder. Corn prices on January 11 were frozen as of the high for that day. Permanent regulations reflecting \$1 a bushel on No. 2 yellow corn at Chicago will be issued within sixty days. Futures also were frozen as of the high on January 11.



H. W. French

The meat production goal for 1943 has been increased nearly 4,000,000,000 pounds over the estimated 1942 production of 21,800,000,000 pounds. Slaughter of meat animals under federal inspection during December hit a new record as a whole, but fewer cattle were slaughtered than a year ago, reflecting lighter December receipts than a year ago at many of the primary markets. Slaughter of cattle crowded 1,000,000 head, calves nearly 500,000, hogs nearly 7,000,000, and sheep over 2,000,000. Twelve months' figures were as follows: cattle, 12,347,369; calves, 5,759,894; hogs, 53,896,881, and sheep, 21,624,689. Cattle gained approximately 1,400,000; calves, 300,000; hogs, 7,400,000; and sheep, 3,500,000 over 1941.

Cattle Weight Down

Steers made up 34.62 per cent of the cattle slaughter for last November against 44.19 per cent a year ago, while the cow percentage stood 61.7 and 51.16, respectively. Live weight average for cattle at 932.44 pounds stood 27.98 pounds below November, 1941, while steers by themselves averaged 982.86 pounds and fell off 42.17 pounds. Live weight of hogs slaughtered made an average of 244.61 pounds, or 10.28 pounds heavier than a year ago. Sheep and lamb average weight at 87.34 was up .49 pounds from a year earlier.

There were 121,195 beef cattle, 24,619 dairy cattle, and 53,879 calves exported to the United States from Canada during 1942, as compared with 160,260 cattle for beef purposes, 22,226 dairy

cattle, and 61,180 calves the corresponding time in 1941. Exports in the fore part of the year showed material increase over the previous year, but late shipments fell down materially.

One hears much about ceilings in the cattle market these days and now there is talk of the black market. Shortage of meat supplies is apparent and consumers often complain to the retailers because of their inability to satisfy their wants. The situation is more or less the same throughout the country, although supplies of red cattle are slightly above those of a month or so ago. Quite frequently the New York wholesale meat trade reports houses devoid of supplies and crowds of prospective buyers gathering at houses where something is available. Reports from the western coast are in the same vein, radio comedians frequently making wise cracks on the situation.

More Cattle on Feed in Corn Belt than Ever

Cattle on feed in the eleven Corn Belt states on January 1 showed 8 per cent increase over a year earlier and the largest number ever on feed in that area at that date, according to a release by the Department of Agriculture. The increase in the Corn Belt was partly offset by a decrease in the total in other feeding states. Minnesota was the only Corn Belt state not showing a bigger total than a year ago. The largest increases were in the states west of the Missouri River, where corn supplies were back to pre-drought levels.

Cattle feeding was below a year ago in all the eleven western states except California and the total for the area down 11 per cent. North Dakota, Oklahoma, Texas, and Pennsylvania reported increases this year. Much of the Corn Belt increase was on small farms rather than in commercial feed-lots. Reports indicate a small proportion to be marketed in January and February, about the usual proportion in March, and a larger proportion in April and later.

Supplies of cattle are expected to be materially smaller in the first quarter of 1943 as contrasted with heavy marketings of highly finished cattle during the first three months of 1942, which was due to a large carryover of long-fed cattle after the first of January. It appears as though there will be a smaller proportion of feeders over 1,000 pounds, a larger proportion from 750 to 1,000 pounds, and the usual proportion under 750 pounds, although a smaller proportion of feeder calves is indicated.

Prices Waver

Fluctuations in the cattle market were pronounced at Chicago and at some of the other markets, and considerable increase in warmed-up and short-fed steers and heifers was reported. Sharp price

breaks for cows often were followed by rapid rises, and bulls were good property at any time, selling at the high time far above anything previously on record.

Packers from Denver west are claiming that grain-fed steers and heifers are cutting out at losses of from \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt. because of their inability to keep the market for live animals down. In the eastern areas, declines in live prices made the picture less gloomy for the processors. Some of the losses claimed were partly offset by the credits for hides and offal. Packers also have been reporting losses of \$1 to \$1.25 per head on hogs.

The average price of common to choice beef steers at Chicago the last week of December figured \$14.93, or \$2.23 higher than a year ago. Choice and prime were \$15.89 and \$13.56, respectively; good, \$14.90 and \$12.54, respectively; medium, \$13.47 and \$11.06, respectively, and common \$11.29 and \$9.52, respectively. Choice and prime grades made up 29.4 per cent of the total against 41.1 per cent a year ago. Good steers made up 50 per cent of the supply against 39.8 per cent a year earlier. Medium was up 2.6 per cent against 19.8 per cent. Common stood at 1.1 and 1.9 per cent, respectively.

Mid-January slaughter steer prices at Chicago were mostly 25 to 50 cents higher than a month earlier. Good cows after considerable weekly change closed 50 cents higher, while lower grades, including canners and cutters, were around 75 cents to \$1 up. Canners have been rather scarce of late, but that is seasonal with the wind-up of the range shipments and clean-up consignments from native sections. Bulls finished 75 cents to \$1.25 higher, but closing prices were at the low point of the period, a decline of 50 cents to \$1 having been registered the second week in January. Calves and vealers ruled strong to 50 cents higher.

Chicago Choice to Primes Reach \$16.90.

Some choice to prime grain-fed steers at Chicago scored \$16.75 to \$16.90 and quite a number of heavy and medium weights sold at \$16.50 to \$16.60, long yearlings stopping at \$16.60 and light yearlings at \$16.40. Strictly long-fed steers were not abundant, and bulk of good to choice offerings cleared at \$13.75 to \$16. Toppy heifers were taken at \$15.75 to \$16 and bulk grading medium to low choice landed at \$12.75 to \$15, mixed yearlings topping at \$16. Before cows weakened, good kinds on the early upswing scored \$13.25 to \$14, but late the medium to good kinds were to be had at \$10 to \$12.50. Only very light canners most of the period were obtainable at \$7 or below, and usually the strong weight cutters made \$9 to \$9.25. Many bulls with weight sold at \$14 and above, with the top on the high spot at \$14.40 but the practical closing top was \$13.75. Some medium 1,350-pound Texas bulls scored \$12.75 and common Mexicans went at \$11.25. Best vealers sold at \$15.50 to \$16.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Best fed steers at Omaha made \$16 and other choice kinds made \$15.35 to \$15.75, including some under 1,100 pounds at the latter figure. Bulk of the medium to choice steers scored \$13 to \$15.25. Choice 950-pound heifers reached \$14.90 and a few others made \$14.60 to \$14.75, most good and choice selling at \$13 to \$14.50. Common to good cows finished at \$9 to \$11.50, some good kinds early scoring \$12 to \$12.50. Most bulls made \$12 to \$13 and best reached \$13.50. Vealers went downward from \$15.50.

No fed steers at Kansas City had finish enough to pass \$15.25 and a fair quota made \$14.50 to \$15, while the bulk grading medium to good scored \$12.25 to \$14.25. Choice heifers made \$14.50 to \$14.85 and medium to good bulked at \$11.75 to \$14. Some cows reached \$12.65 and a few made \$12 to \$12.50, but common to medium bulked at \$9 to \$11. Bulls sold downward from \$12.75 and practical top on vealers was \$15.

Any number of good to average choice steers at Denver sold at \$14 to \$15 and some choice loads made \$15.05 to \$15.35, the top standing highest since 1937. The common and medium kinds bulked at \$11.50 to \$13.50. West coast buyers were in the market, usually taking steers at \$13.25 to \$14.85 and heifers at \$13 to \$14.50, although these men paid as high as \$14.85 for heifers. Most of the good to choice heifers sold at \$13.50 to \$14.60 to all interests. Medium to low good short-feds made \$11.25 to \$13. Most common to good cows scored \$10 to \$11.75

with a top of \$12. Most medium to good bulls made \$11 to \$12 and best scored \$12.25 to \$12.75. Vealers sold from \$16, most choice lots closing at \$16.

Best grain-fed steers at St. Joseph made \$15.25 to \$16, medium to choice bulking at \$12.25 to \$14.50. Heifers and mixed yearlings topped at \$14.75, medium to good selling largely at \$11.25 to \$14. Most cows scored \$9.50 to \$11.50 and some made \$12 to \$13. Bulls bulked at \$10.50 to \$12.25 with a top of \$13. Sioux City reported some choice steers at \$15.25 to \$15.90 and bulk of medium to good at \$12.75 to \$15, some short-feds selling at \$11.75 to \$12. Medium to choice heifers sold at \$12.75 to \$15 and mixed yearlings reached \$15.50. Good cows occasionally made \$12.25 to \$13 but bulk sold from \$12 down. Bulls often sold at \$12.75 to \$13.50 and on the high spot some scored \$14 to \$14.25. Best steers at St. Paul landed at \$15.25 to \$16, medium to good usually making \$13 to \$15. Outstanding mixed yearlings made \$15.75 to \$16.35 and straight heifers reached \$15. Most heifers, however, were taken at \$13 to \$14. Cows bulked at \$10.50 to \$12.50 and top was \$13. Bulls reached \$13.75 and best vealers scored \$16.

Stocker and Feeder Demand More Uncertain

Stocker and feeder demand was more uncertain at Chicago and elsewhere, and at most points strictly choice steers suitable for replacement purposes were practically absent. Average quality was be-

low the previous month, and the run included an abundance of medium to good offerings. Heifers and calves suitable for country needs included some of the best of the season and they sold readily. Mid-January stocker and feeder steer prices looked steady to 25 cents lower, while she-stock on country account rated a 25- to 50-cent advance, cows showing the most strength. Calves were not materially changed.

Most of the steers at Chicago of medium to good grade landed at \$11 to \$13.50. Good to choice steers at Omaha scored \$13 to \$14 and medium to good usually made \$11 to \$12.75. Heifers went out from that market at \$11.25 to \$12.40 and medium cows at \$8.25 to \$9. Good to choice steer calves scored \$14.25 to \$15.75 and heifer calves sold at \$13.75 down. Good to choice feeder steers at St. Paul made \$12 to \$13.50.

Medium to choice steers went for replacement at Kansas City at \$11 to \$13.75 and strictly good heavy calves sold at \$14.15. St. Joseph reported steers on country account at \$10.35 to \$13.35 and good calves at \$13.50. Medium to good steers at Sioux City sold at \$11 to \$13 and choice loads at \$13.75 to \$14, with good to choice steer calves at \$13.50 to \$15.25 and choice to fancy 480-pound Montanas at \$16.50. Some choice yearling steers at Denver made \$14 to \$14.50 but medium to good kinds bulked at \$11.50 to \$13.75. Good to choice heifers scored \$12 to \$12.85. Shelly to good stock cows made \$8 to \$10.70. Good to choice



These Top Bulls Sold at Denver —Out of WHR Grand Champion Carload

- ❏ WHR bulls Grand Champions at Denver 14 times in past 18 years.
- ❏ Records at the big Denver Show prove conclusively that WHR breeding is tops.
- ❏ The A bar A Grand Champion load of feeder calves were all sired by WHR bulls and out of cows sired by WHR bulls.

'Nuf said!

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH Cheyenne



steer calves landed at \$14 to \$15.85 and heifer calves sold at \$14.50 down. Some very light mixed calves reached \$16.25.

Record Hog Production

Hog production in 1943 will far exceed that of 1942 for a new record. The fall pig crop of 1942 is 23 per cent larger than the previous record fall crop of 1941, according to a release by the Department of Agriculture. The number of pigs saved in the fall season of 1942 is estimated at 43,721,000 head, or 60 per cent above the 1931-40 average. The combined spring and fall pig crop of 1942 is estimated at 104,734,000, standing about 20,000,000 above the combined crop the previous year.

Live hog prices continued at an unexpected pace, and the only excuse given by the members of the trade for the firm position is that supplies have not been up to expectations, and perhaps the expected glut will not materialize. Packers support the market in the face of cutting losses, but whenever supplies show any volume they immediately force prices down. This usually results in a let-up in receipts and again the market becomes bullish. Mid-January prices at Chicago averaged around 75 cents higher than a month ago, some hogs under 200 pounds showing more gain and others above 300 pounds showing less upturn. Sows averaged around 50 cents higher.

No hogs at Chicago late in December sold up to \$15 and on the close of the month best topped at \$14.50; yet the first Monday in January of this year the \$15 hog came back into circulation, nothing the following day passing \$14.55. Within a week, \$15 again was paid and on the high day some reached \$15.10, the closing top falling back to \$14.90. Good to choice sows frequently sold within 25 to 35 cents of the top paid for butcher hogs, best finishing at \$14.60 and only those above 400 pounds selling under \$14.25.

Lamb and Mutton Ceilings

Wholesale lamb and mutton ceilings were established on December 19, 1942, but the present retail price structure on lamb will be retained at least for the time being. Lamb and mutton, consumed primarily in eastern and northeastern states, supply about 5 per cent of the nation's meat. Domestic production of lamb and mutton during 1941 aggregated some 925,000,000 pounds. Prices were set in ten zones. Base prices are established for the section comprising roughly the area between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi. The eastern part of the United States has been zoned upon a basis of freight rates and icing charges out of Kansas City. Each eastern zone, other than the immediate one to the northeast of the base area, reflects a 25 cents per cwt. increase in freight and icing costs. Prices in the base area are as follows: AA, \$26.50; A, \$25; B, \$23; and C, \$20.75. These are for lamb and the corresponding grades

are choice, good, commercial, and utility, including culls. Mutton is termed Grade S, M, and R, meaning good or better, commercial and utility or lower, respectively. Ceiling prices are \$13.75, \$12.50, and \$11.25, respectively.

Live lamb prices have held a comparatively firm level, and even yearlings and ewes gave a good account of themselves. Closing prices rested at a point as high as any time in the period, and as compared with mid-December good to choice fat lambs showed a 50-cent or more upturn, lower grades displaying a weak to lower trend. This widening of the price range was due to the scarcity of upper grade and an increase in medium offerings. The situation was somewhat the same with yearlings, with good to choice around 25 cents higher and the lower grades mostly 25 cents lower. All grades of ewes were in demand and late sales were mostly 25 to 50 cents higher.

Sheep and lambs on feed on January 1 stood 2 per cent smaller than the record number of a year ago but larger than any other January 1 on record, according to the Department of Agriculture. The estimated number on feed is 6,783,000, compared with 6,928,000 on January 1, 1942, 6,479,000 in 1941, and 5,841,000 in 1940. The 1932-41 average was 5,849,000.

Fewer Lambs on Feed in West

Eleven Corn Belt states had more than a year ago, but the increase was not large enough to offset the rather sharp decrease in other areas. The Corn Belt estimate at 4,226,000 head is 8½ per cent above a year ago and 1,000,000 above the 1932-41 average. The number in South Dakota and Kansas is the largest on record and in Nebraska the second largest ever reported. Outside the Corn Belt the estimated number on feed is 2,555,000, or a decrease of 16 per cent from last year and the smallest since 1936. Numbers are down in all the eleven western states except California.



"I'm reading the last chapter of your book, so you won't wake me up later to tell me how it ends!"

Colorado prior to this year always had the largest number on feed, but at present feeding operations are sharply curtailed, and the 820,000 reported stood nearly 300,000 below a year ago and the second smallest on record, standing below both Nebraska and Kansas. All feeding areas in Colorado reported decreases. Big reductions were reported for Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, and Oregon, but only moderate decreases for Montana, New Mexico, and Washington. Feeding in North Dakota and Texas will be larger and Oklahoma operations will be smaller.

Fat lambs the first week in January reached \$16 at Chicago, but the following week strictly good to choice kinds scored \$16.15, and most carlots went at \$15.50 to \$16. Most of the shorn lambs carried Number 1 pelts and topped at \$15.65, numerous loads selling from \$15.50 down. Most of the good to choice yearling wethers sold at \$13 to \$14.25 but the top reached \$14.75. Yearling ewes were taken largely at \$12.50 to \$13. Bulk of the good to choice slaughter ewes sold at \$7.75 to \$8.85, although near the opening of the year some sold as high as \$9.

Hardly any feeder lambs were reported at Chicago, but those available at Denver were quickly absorbed at steady to strong prices, while Omaha quotations were around 25 to 50 cents higher. Denver reported medium to good feeder lambs at \$13 to \$14, and good to choice kinds scored \$14.25 to \$14.50, those at \$14.40 to \$14.50 having been from wheat pastures. Good to choice feeding lambs in Omaha sold at \$13.50 to \$14.50, mixed fats and feeders selling as high as \$14.70.

WOOL & HIDE TRADE

By H. W. F.

WIDESPREAD INTEREST continued in the current public auctions of Australian wool. Speculation continues as to the number of these auctions to be held and the amount of wool to be offered. This uncertainty brought the purchasing of Australian wool for import by dealers to a standstill. One of these auctions was held January 5, in which 12,712 bales, totaling 3,785,105 pounds of semi-sound and damaged wool was offered. All but one lot of 27,552 pounds sold. Competition was keen on fine lots of 64's and higher, and most sales were made at ceiling prices. Prices on wools grading 60-64's ranged from 4½ cents below ceilings to ceilings, with an average of about 2½ cents below ceiling, on a grease basis. Lots of 58-60's were 1¾ to 6½ cents below ceiling, with the average 4 cents off. Some 58's went 1¾ to 5½ cents below ceilings, averaging about 3½ cents down. Damaged wools sold ¾ to 11¾ cents below ceiling.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

ings. Some scoured wool, damaged before scouring was bid 82 cents, clean basis.

Consumption quotas for wool for the period ending July 31, 1943, permit a considerable increase in use of wool for civilian worsted fabrics. Quotas for fabrics produced in the woolen and carpet systems remain unchanged. Consumption of apparel wool in the first ten months of 1942 totaled 883,000,000 pounds compared with 790,000,000 pounds a year earlier.

Recent trading at Boston in domestic wools was very limited, and that remaining unsold was chiefly of fine short and three-eighths wool. Around mid-January the market for combing domestic wools was narrowed by the changing over of some large worsted mills to exclusive use of foreign wools. Sales were made of scoured pulled wools and noils to woolen mills in volume restricted mostly by the limited offerings.

Broadening demand was noted for British controlled wools and for all types and grades of South American wools finer than 44's. Australian and New Zealand wools, both spot and to-arrive, moved in large volume. South African burry clothing wool sold at various prices, depending on grade and condition. Prices on British controlled spot wools were 1 to 5 cents, grease basis, below maximum for lower grades and at maximum prices for fine staple wools.

Montevideo and Buenos Aires wools were sold scoured and in the grease. Large sales of Montevideo wools to arrive of grade A-60's sold at slightly lower prices due to a decline of 1 cent a pound in the primary markets, where most grades can be purchased at a grease price of 32 to 32½ cents. Contracts were awarded for 1,250,000 yards of 20-ounce woolen cloth for the quartermaster corps, wool content to be in 148,000 yards 100 per cent foreign wools.

Country graded Ohio fleece wools of medium grade was offered at 53 cents, in the grease. About half the lot, or 35,000 pounds, was sold at this price and an option taken on the remainder. Bright fleece wools, shrinking 49 per cent, sold at 52 cents. Fine clothing from the Midwest sold at a clean price of \$1.06, the grease price having been 36½ cents.

Territory wools grade original bag yearling Montana fine staple sold at 56 cents for a lot shrinking 53 to 54 per cent. Some graded three-eighths wool from the Northwest with estimated shrinkage of 49 per cent went at 53 cents. Original bag Idaho wool mixed grades three-eighths to fine, shrinking 66 per cent, sold at 37½ cents, delivery at the mill. Price offered for graded three-eighths wool was \$1.03, clean basis.

Texas average twelve-month wool, shrinking 63 to 64 per cent, sold at 43 cents, grease basis, figuring \$1.16, clean basis. Staple 12-month tender wool with 60 per cent shrink made 47 cents, in the grease, or \$1.17½ clean.

Mohair was quiet in Boston and in the country. Some sales of adult hair were made in Texas at 50 cents and kid hair at 60 to 70 cents, mostly around 65 cents. The country prices early in the month for good yearling hair was 60 cents. It has been estimated that around 4,000,000 pounds of mohair remain in Texas. Some good kid hair in Boston made 83 cents, and a burry kind made 77½ cents.

Hides

Little of interest happened in the hide market the past month. Trade was practically featureless. Prices were mostly unchanged at ceiling levels. Some December permits were not filled and those for January were not issued until after the tenth of the month. Available supplies were not very heavy. Heavy and light native steer and cow hides were quoted at 15½ cents; branded steer at 14½ cents, and native bull at 12 cents. Packer kipskins were placed at 20 cents and packer calfskins at 27 cents.

Country hide trade was dull and of little consequence with offerings limited and outlet rather limited for most available grades. Native hides, all-weights and extremes, 28 to 43 pounds, were quoted at 15 cents, branded at 14 cents, and bull at 10 to 10½ cents. These quotations were mostly nominal.

A REPORT FROM FOUR BUSY STATES

By DAVID I. DAY

UP IN THE EXTREME NORTHEAST corner of Iowa is Allamakee County, with Waukon as the county seat. The Mississippi River, comparatively narrow in this region, separates it from Wisconsin and a very historic part of the Wolverine State at that. Just below is Prairie du Chien, noted in the early history of Wisconsin and the entire upper Mississippi Valley. The entire locality teems with stories handed down from the days of the Black Hawk War.

The farmers in Allamakee County told me recently that crop conditions in 1942 were highly favorable in most neighborhoods to beef feeding this winter. They grew good grain and plenty of hay and silage materials and are in good position until time for the harvesting of spring grain. In all parts of this county, there is a fair interest in beef feeding, and the equipment as a rule ranges from fair to good. The Herefords, the Shorthorns, and the Angus devotees each have ample representation in the locality. In fact, the cattle in the barns and feed-lots appeared to be pretty evenly divided between the three great breeds.


There are some fifteen or sixteen really prominent cattle feeders in the county and some not operating on quite so large or successful a scale—all around Waukon, Lansing, Harpers Ferry, New Albin, Potsville, Luana, and possibly elsewhere. The names on mailboxes

\$4.00
TATTOO MARKER



EXTRA LETTERS OR
FIGURES - 35¢ EA.

Complete with set of figures 1 to 10, bottle of ink and full instructions, all for \$4.00, postpaid. Ear tags and complete line of supplies. Write for free catalog.
Breeders Supply Co. Council Bluffs, Iowa



ALFALFA
GOLD SEAL
ALFALFA SEED

YOU can be SURE of origin,
of over 99% purity and high
germination when you plant
Gold Seal. Extremely hardy.

WESTERN SEED CO., DENVER

WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG

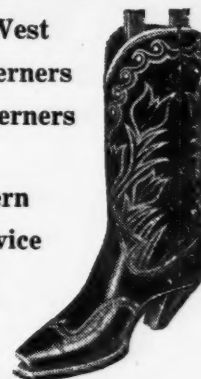
THEY MAKE GOOD OR WE DO

PAINTER HEREFORDS

ROGGEN COLO.

Made in the West
Made by Westerners
Made for Westerners
and
Full of Western
Style and Service


Made to Your
Order and
Measure



Write for our catalog

Western Boot Company
Tucson, Arizona

PER PAIR
POSTPAID



70¢

HORN WEIGHTS

1/2-1-1/2 and 2 POUND SIZES

TATTOO MARKERS—Complete with figures 1 to 10. Bottle of ink and full instructions, \$4.00 postpaid. Poultry or small animal size \$3.25 post paid. Complete line of Ear Tags, Veterinary Instruments and Supplies. Write for Catalog.

Breeders Supply Co.
Council Bluffs, Iowa

PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE: Cover, Chas. J. Belden, Pitchfork, Wyo.; all the convention pictures, Record Stockman, Denver, Colo.

indicate that these thrifty farmers and cattlemen hail from many parts of the map originally, yet good Americans all—mighty busy people endeavoring to increase the 1942 production of food for freedom. The folks there have a county cattle producers' organization.

I think the majority of beef cattle on feed there this winter are home raised, but there are some purchases made of range cattle each fall and spring. Everywhere is mentioned the excellent interest of the 4-H and Future Farmers in beef calf projects. Probably the high point of public interest in the beef business of the county is the 4-H show and sale held annually at the County Fair at Waukon.

I was recently in Hot Springs, the famed Arkansas health resort, and pretty well over the roads of Garland County in which the city is situated, as well as over the adjacent counties of Saline and Hot Springs. The farmers in that part of the world are much interested in better beef cattle, principally Herefords. Some cattle fattening is now carried on, but the great possibility of the future appears to be in raising feeder calves for the Mississippi River

bottom country to the east and for shipment into the lush grain country in parts of Missouri and in Illinois.

In Hot Springs County near Malvern is the farm of M. N. Keith, which has attracted the attention of farmers round about and has even gained some state-wide recognition. Mr. Keith is now in his third year of a good three-year test to determine the per-acre income to be derived from growing Hereford feeder calves.

He started this test in November, 1940, with thirty grade cows and a good bull, all estimated as worth \$1,350. He used thirty acres of hay land and sixty acres of pasture in the demonstration. A year later, there were twenty-nine calves produced and valued at \$1,160. Charged against this amount was \$164 for hay and pasture maintenance, \$72 for grain for creep-fed calves, \$81 for interest on the investment. This made a \$9.23 income per acre.

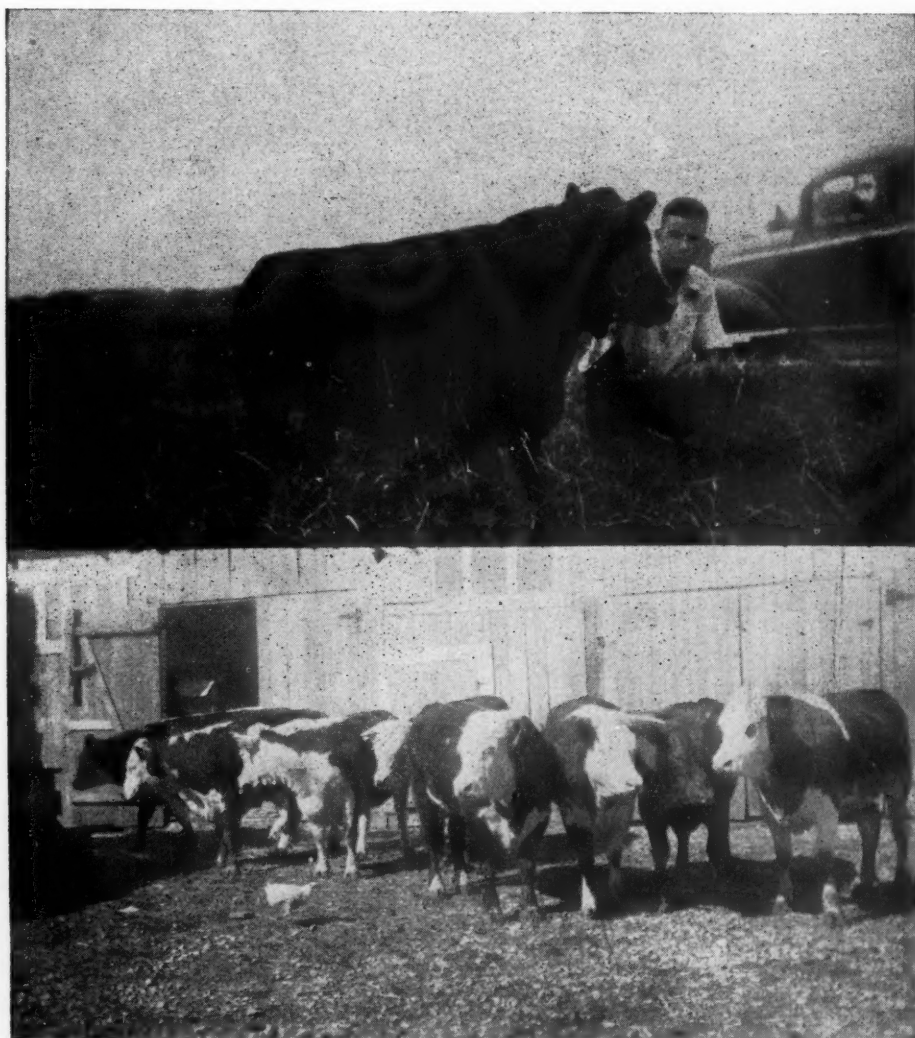
The second year, he used forty grade Hereford cows and a good bull. The animals were valued at \$2,200, utilizing seventy-five acres of pasture and forty acres of hay. In November, 1942, there were thirty-seven calves worth \$1,310,

against which sum was charged \$275 for producing hay and maintaining pasture, \$30 for labor, and \$132 interest. This made the income per acre \$7.50. The owner believes that he lost on income per acre by (1) not having the calves dropped earlier, (2) he did not creep-feed any calves, and (3) he reseeded some of the pasture and this cost him \$61.

Like this man, the majority of the farmers and landowners are beginning to see how money can be made on cheap-land operation in the highlands, and we need not be surprised if Arkansas feeder calves cut a bigger figure in the beef industry in the years ahead. Driving eastward from Little Rock to Memphis, we passed through much country fitted for cattle fattening as well as feeder calf production, and the interest in beef cattle is on the increase. We visited one man more than eighty years of age who is feeding out ten head of Herefords which were grown in the mountains. He said the greatest lesson of his four score years of life in the state is that the only way soil fertility can be maintained is by more livestock. He said: "I have been a big cotton farmer in my time, and cotton is a necessary article. We just overdid it and did an almost irreparable damage to the financial and social set-up here, as has been done in almost every southern state."

On January 4 and 5, I traveled U. S. 50 from Vincennes to North Vernon, pretty well across Indiana. Later I went northward through Greensburg and Rushville to Connersville, a thriving industrial city under the bluffs of White-water River, fine livestock country in all directions. As I motored up, I passed Horace, just a bit of a village, once enjoying world-wide fame as the home of J. G. Robbins and his family, whose Scotch Shorthorn cattle swept the boards at the Chicago World's Fair in the early 1890's. The family is still identified with beef cattle, but are now reached via Greensburg or Waldron. Just recently I read in the daily papers that their bull had died—the immortal Raveni Masterpiece, as popular a winner as was ever shown at the Chicago International.

I observed in this country, more noted for hogs than for cattle, a tendency to increase the number of cattle on feed, but whether they will be finished out as smoothly as in previous years is quite doubtful at this writing. The feeling now is to "get them good but not too good" for both spring and fall marketing. One thing I observed, too, as compared with a few years ago: There appears to be more black cattle in the pastures and feed-lots. There is little fear that there will be price breaks and I believe there will be many western calves go on feed in the spring north of North Vernon—in the country so often described as "a land of windmills," there being a windmill or two on nearly every farm for miles and miles.



Top: A Waukon, Iowa, champion 4-H baby beef calf. Lower: some 4-H baby beeves sold at a 4-H auction at the county fair at Waukon.

POPULACE WANTS RATIONAL RATIONING

By JAMES E. POOLE

A DISINTERESTED OBSERVER, BE-wildered by the confusion inseparable from a constantly changing panorama of price controls and shortages, manufactured or otherwise, would refrain from speculating on the outcome. Leon Henderson was right when he admonished: "You ain't seen nothing yet." Intelligent post-war prognostication is impossible, yet it is profusely on tap. As the good book says: "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

At the moment, the natural law of supply and demand is fettered to a veritable Promethean rock, commodity markets having been reduced to a rubber stamp basis. Price orders and consumption orders follow in rapid and bewildering succession. Henderson may disappear, but the experimental procession continues. That the picture has barely begun to show on the national screen is popular belief. Nothing is predictable, except that we are running into a labyrinthian maze of shortage in which essentials and non-essentials are inextricably blended. This unbalanced condition is a logical result of war, and nothing can be done about it.

Washington is endeavoring to restrain a rising price tide for several reasons, not the least of which is the inflation bogey that officials fear would upset the entire financial structure. In its final analysis, inflation means resort to printing press money—a sphere already invaded, as an expanding per capita money circulation suggests. Of this we have a notable example in the degradation of the German mark two decades ago. The less a dollar buys the more deplorable is the condition of those under the necessity of using it for money. Price controls are here to stay for the widely advertised "duration" in any event, and in all probability for some time thereafter. More commodities will become involved in the meshes of scarcity, actually and in a psychological sense. What would happen if price controls were abandoned at this juncture does not need elucidation. Prices would soar and chaos ensue.

Rational Rationing


What is known as "rational rationing" is the latest popular demand. Much of the rationing so far essayed has been amateurish and was preordained to failure—an excursion on an uncharted sea. Dilettante economists and politicians were largely responsible—an undesirable combination, as the former are long on theory, the latter always snooting around for votes. The logical result was discord. Contradictory orders and more trouble than ever came out of Pandora's box. Secretary Wickard emerged from this official miasma with flying colors; Henderson, after slipping several cogs, was derailed, although Washington expects

him to stage a comeback. Wickard has earned the goodwill of the agrarian element even though his popularity around the White House is under suspicion. Scanning the long list of agricultural secretaries from the time of Tama Jim Wilson to date, Wickard looms up as the strongest man in the bunch, not excepting Henry Wallace, of Iowa, whose open advocacy of doing justice to Argentina by admitting its fresh meats never has been plausibly explained. Meanwhile, Wickard is working nights ballyhooing for increased production of meats and other comestibles and setting up "goals" that proclaim him to be the world's champion optimist. The secretary, now national food administrator, at a critical moment when a \$2 slump in hogs threatened future production, pulled an ace from his official sleeve in the shape of a guarantee of \$15.25 per cwt. for the duration. This prop under the price structure averted threatened market gluts, incidentally adding an inestimable pork and lard tonnage to winter

production by inducing growers to put on profitable weight. The ruse was so successful that instead of gluts the hog market went on a semi-starvation basis, resulting in violent week-to-week price fluctuations, as growers, having recovered confidence, reduced loading on every break, forcing packers to resort to country buying to keep killing gangs at work continuously and avoid payment of standing time.

Plums and Crumbs

Miniature packers, recently bawling in the direction of Washington for relief on the ground that the big packers were getting the plums while they had to content themselves with the crumbs that fell from the patronage table, have been appeased with more or less unprofitable war contracts, 75 per cent of them having grabbed federal inspection, without which they were ineligible. They organized a national body while flying the flag of distress, which may be useful, provided it survives. One result is that the



DORSEY & RIDLEY GRUB-KILLER

BEFORE USING AFTER USING

DORSEY & RIDLEY GRUB KILLER

is very effective in ridding your cattle of grubs, wolves, or warbles. One treatment usually is sufficient when applied at the right time (when the grubs are large enough to be noticeable). It has been used successfully for the past three years. The cost per head for treating cattle is only about 10 cents, and you will find that it is worth many times its small cost. Cattle will gain more on the same feed and will finish quicker and bring a better market price when found to be free from grubs. It has also been used in treating PINKEYE with excellent results. Spray it directly into the eyes without diluting. Ask your druggist or feed dealer for GRUB KILLER. If he cannot supply you, write or wire us direct. \$5.00 per gallon in half-gallon, one- and two-gallon cans.

DORSEY & RIDLEY CHEMICAL CO.
118 LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE BUILDING, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.



Guard Against PULMONARY COMPLICATIONS

It's important that every livestock raiser protect his stock — deliver healthy animals to market — for every pound of meat means fighting strength for our military men. Vaccinate now help your country earn greater profits for yourself.

During the cold, wet season extra care should be exercised to prevent losses from pulmonary complications. Globe Pasteur-ella-Pseudodiphthericum Bacterin is suggested as an aid in the prevention of Hemorrhagic-Septicemia and pulmonary complications due to the organisms contained in the product.

The Globe trade-mark is backed by a 23-year record of outstanding dependability. Ask your druggist or dealer

MEAT on the hoof IS EXTRA VALUABLE NOW!



GLOBE LABORATORIES
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
LOS ANGELES — DENVER — KANSAS CITY — MEMPHIS — LITTLE ROCK

various constituencies these smaller fry served have recently felt the stress of meat scarcity, salesmen having been called in and truck delivery stopped. This suspends a highly complicated if not uneconomical selling system, as the several packing concerns canvassed the country exhaustively in much the same manner as stockyard commission men pursue livestock feeders to their agrarian lairs, generating expenses that are mainly responsible for balance sheets requiring the use of carmine ink. When Hitler has been properly squelched and "business as usual" is resumed, this profit-wrecking competition will begin again.

Although meat rationing has been deferred, such action is considered inevitable. The day originally set was January 1, but for various reasons postponement until some time in March was announced. That the rationers consider the project loaded with trouble is an open secret. An appeal, widely broadcast and otherwise publicized, to the public for voluntary cheerful acquiescence in curbing the voracious national appetite for animal foods met the response of popular clamor for more, prompting Harold Ickes to express the opinion that the public is animated by a porky disposition. The day following the Davis-Wickard appeal for co-operation in curtailing food consumption, every market in the country was a Mecca for housewives and their male folks armed with capacious baskets. Terrified dealers hastily hid their wares to convince the buying-crazed crowd that they were "out" of every article called for. Only regular customers got recognition from harassed sales persons, and they were limited. A woman demanding a whole ham had to be content with a half, and a request for a dozen cans produced two. The moral is obvious, or should be: Ask the public to do one thing and it will promptly do the reverse.

Staff is Stumped

Meanwhile the OPA staff admits that it is stumped by the meat rationing problem, realizing that whatever it does will be wrong. Factually the American people are opposed to dictation on principle, and that is what rationing amounts to. They can ballyhoo about "winning the war," sing the national anthem with gusto, and otherwise proclaim patriotism without discomfort; but monkey with their dietary program and they howl. The OPA people realize this, which is the principal reason why meat rationing was not launched at the turn of the year, although the onus was placed on coupon printers. Any fixed allowance for any definite period will savor of absurdity, as the Washington people frankly admit that after military and lend-lease requirements have been satisfied domestic consumers will get the residue, whether it may be two pounds or eight ounces. Just so much meat will be available. The aggregate quantity depends on several factors, including feed cost, incentive furnished producers in the matter of

prices, and their acquiescence. At present hog growers are in an amiable mood; cattle feeders are in a reverse attitude. Race-track operators have learned that horse owners will not enter their nags unless full purses are hung on the wire. Patriotism is a commendable abstract quality that reaches the subsidence stage whenever involving financial loss.

For a decade past a prosperous institution known as the "freezer" plant has been the bete noir of meat retailers. In rural communities it has already put thousands of small markets out of business; at this moment it threatens the survivors. These receptacles conceal an enormous meat tonnage; its opponents assert that the aggregate exceeds that of storage in packers' warehouses. The latter is federally inspected, its volume known to a pound, while not a critter contributing to freezer plant contents is subjected to tally. Sensing an opportunity to administer a discolored optic to this thriving industry, which has recently invaded suburban metropolitan areas, the national retailers' association has requested the administration to confiscate the entire package, utilizing it for lend-lease purposes; in other words, donate it to England, Russia, or wherever else on this mundane sphere Uncle Sam's generosity is in evidence. Of course nothing is more improbable, as this reservoir of food was tucked away legally and is private property, protected by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. But the owners have had a scare, nevertheless, realizing that anything is possible nowadays.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Meat consumers are having an opportunity to realize how close they have always been to short rations, especially in the East. Suspend processing of domestic animals and birds a single week at any time—past, present, or future—and the national cupboard would be as bare as the historic food receptacle of Old Mother Hubbard. The stock of meats, mostly hog product, concealed in packers' cellars would not make more than the "two bites of a cherry" unless replenished from week to week. Stop the secondary movement of livestock to primary markets from the Corn Belt even forty-eight hours, and a famished mob would protest; arrest the primary movement from the grazing regions, and in one brief season a dietary disaster would be recorded. The bald fact is that the public is always merely one step ahead of restricted diets, few paces ahead of semi-starvation. What has happened recently at the Atlantic seaboard, on the Pacific coast, and even in such interior industrial centers as Detroit, tells a mute but eloquent story. On the other hand, without millions of urban customers, suspension of food production would be inevitable at no distant date. There was a time, not so far in the past, when the rural population was self-sustaining, but that is merely a chapter of ancient his-

tory. The theme could be expanded indefinitely.

Night School for Housekeepers

What measures will be devised to ration meat is not known even in OPA circles. The British "point" system has been extolled, but that it is not likely to be efficacious is realized. Rationing sugar, milk, oil, or even booze is a comparatively simple task, as a single commodity is involved; in meats, fifty-seven or more varieties complicate the task, only edible offal being exempt from control. Several mathematicians who have attempted methods of applying the point system in a practical way are now occupants of padded cells. OPA officials are doubtful, but they are in a position where they are compelled to do something even at the risk of failure—an outcome that does not faze the average bureaucrat, using that term in its refined sense, as useful bureaucrats do exist. Adapted to English conditions, it is evidently workable, but the two spheres are radically different. Advertised as of British origin, the idea was conceived by Hudson Bay Company officials to facilitate fur trading with Indians in what is now northwestern Canada. They used small sticks of wood, known as tokens, in lieu of actual money, identifying them with the letters H. B. C. burned into the surface to prevent counterfeiting. In the event that this system is adopted, housekeepers will be under the necessity of going to night school to get the hang of the thing, as English women have done.

Mendacious newspaper scribes are filling space with "black market" and meat bootlegging yarns. These make excellent reading, but they are mere figments evidencing reportorial versatility. They are based on what happened during the brief period when Hoover's "noble experiment" was running riot and the enterprising "bootician" was a prominent citizen. But there is a difference between converting 25 cents' worth of corn into a gallon of booze merchantable at \$10 and making an honest dollar by illegally processing and merchandizing meat with livestock at present prices. Refutation of these fantastic stories is the indisputable fact that the traffic would not be profitable, that detection would be sure and simple, as the OPA people announce that malefactors in this particular sphere of illicit enterprise would be prosecuted to the limit and probably jailed unless boasting membership in the "I got a drag" club.

"Don't Worry Us"

Meat scarcity reached an acute stage immediately after the Christmas holidays. From many communities beef disappeared. This scarcity was obscured during December by poultry consumption, but the moment the turkey carcass went into the garbage can, a consumer cry for more beef agitated the atmosphere. Fresh pork was available in limited quantities, and there was enough

lamb and mutton to go around. After six months of record cattle slaughter, which spelled liquidation rather than increased production, the December kill under federal inspection dropped below 1,000,000 head the first time since May, and was 23 per cent less than October, when an all-time one-month record was made. As January worked along, beef scarcity became more apparent. Even in Chicago, retailers threw up their hands in despair when importuned by irate women demanding the why and wherefore, many displaying signs: "We have no beef; don't worry us about it."

How short beef supply is cannot be measured until the crop of the stockers that went into feeders' hands during the October to November period has been garnered. Reckoning with government requirements, an increase of 25 per cent would not create plenitude; and that is impossible, regardless of ballyhoo. Thousands of meat markets have gone out of business; others are on their way and meat dispensaries are not worth a dollar a dozen. They cannot be operated in many instances without heavy loss. And sticking out of the mess with the prominence of a sore thumb is labor scarcity. Cattle feeders are cleaning up for the season because cattle tenders are not available. Down in Washington they have a hazy idea that "self-feeders" do the work.

And how about that January swine avalanche at the markets? Instead, supply is actually running under the corresponding period of 1942, particularly in the packer "direct buying" area, Iowa and southern Minnesota, where a 30 to 35 per cent increase had been advertised. I asked an Iowa man where the hogs had gone. "Two places, the market and the smokehouse," he replied. "I can sell all the smoked meat I can make at substantial profit. Local packers are making government meat, ignoring domestic trade, and retailers in interior towns are having difficulty in getting pork, not to speak of beef. Low producing cows are being killed off everywhere—a case of good riddance to rubbish. We are not going on half meat rations back over the hinterland if city people are headed that way."

"Spread the Meat"

At the markets, country butchers take low-grade steers and cows away from packers by simply paying more money. Beef price ceilings do not bother them, as the snooping task is not being attempted. The labor "guys" are protesting against soaring meat prices, alleging profiteering by retailers. Lurid "black market" yarns are absurd, as only volunteer rationing is in effect and people will eat all the meat they can get and pay for pending official rationing some time in March or April, or whenever the OPA lads believe they have a workable plan, which they will probably discover is a delusion. Experts predict that the British "point" system is loaded with trouble.

The year 1943 will go into history as a period of unprecedented scarcity of animal and probably avian food. Substitutes are suggested, such as rattlesnakes from Virginia's dismal swamp, where the reptiles abound; deer and antelope meat from the great open spaces of the West; muskrats from the Mississippi Delta, already on New Orleans tables in the guise of "marsh hare;" and turtle meat from the northern watershed, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Some enthusiast asserts that 35,000,000 pounds of wild meat is running around loose in the woods and has only to be bagged and transported to the population centers

where it would probably sell on a "minus" cost basis.

Yes, it is a genuine rather than a bureau fabricated shortage and one that will not be easily remedied. If altruists of the Henry Wallace type are to have their way and meat-hungry folks across the Atlantic fed, the American population is menaced with an enforced vegetarian diet. Instead of Pollock's "Eat More Meat" slogan, it will be "Spread the Meat," and in the process it will be spread so thinly that visualization rather than mastication will become popular. This is no attempt at humor; rather it is a condition already.

Prevent Abortion Losses

By vaccinating your calves 4 to 8 months old
With ANCHOR Abortion Vaccine

Price per 5 cc. dose.....35 cents

Blackleg Bacterin (5 cc. dose).....	\$0.07 per dose
Hemorrhagic Septicemia Bacterin (5 cc. dose).....	.06 per dose
Anti-Hemorrhagic Septicemia Serum.....	1.80 per 100 cc.
Mixed Bacterin Bovine, Formula No. 1 (5cc. dose).....	.06 per dose
(This new product has incorporated in it some of the organisms formerly contained in the pink eye and pulmonary bacterins)	
Coll-Enteritidis Bacterin.....	.06 per dose
(To be used for treatment and prevention of calf scours)	
One 10 cc. syringe and two needles.....	\$1.35

FREE BOOK: Send for a copy of our "Vaccination Simplified" booklet, also latest price list on all products.

Order from nearest ANCHOR dealer

If your local drug store does not handle ANCHOR products, write us

Anchor Serum Company

SO. ST. JOSEPH, MO.

W. J. KENNEDY, Vice-President and Sales Manager
The World's Largest Anti-Hog-Cholera and Animal Vaccine Plant

Prosperity and Adversity

It Is Said that the only time a farmer makes money is in war time. Although wars have come all too frequently, the long periods of hard times between wars have bankrupted many a good farmer and stockman.

During prosperous war years, farmers are apt to forget the way they have had to work together and co-operate in hard times by building their own organizations to protect themselves in the market places. This should not be forgotten now.

Strengthen and continue to build strong CO-OPERATIVE LIVE STOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATIONS now. Consign your livestock to co-operative sales agencies, attend co-operative meetings and be prepared to stay with your neighbors . . . for only through such co-operation can your voice be heard and your interests protected now and after the war.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION

160 North LaSalle Street

Chicago, Illinois

ROUND THE RANGE

WESTERN RANGE AND STOCK REPORT

WESTERN RANGES STARTED THE year with a fair to good supply of feed, according to report of the Denver western livestock office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Range feed was good and uncovered east of the main range and fair to good in the Far West. Hay and feed were mostly ample east of the Rockies. Some hay shortages were reported in the Far West. Livestock was wintering in good condition.

Feed on winter ranges was generally good along the eastern slope of the main range and in the Great Plains. Except in higher areas and in a few local sections, ranges were open for grazing during December. Winter ranges and pastures were mostly open, and good feed was reported in the Dakotas and Montana and some snow in eastern North Dakota. Pastures were open and had good feed in western Nebraska, western Kansas, eastern Wyoming, and eastern Colorado. Pasture and range feed were generally good in Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. Some dry, short feed was reported in southern Texas. Late December snows and storms checked grazing temporarily in western Kansas and eastern Colorado. In Wyoming snow covered the west and southwest and some local areas, and the state suffered local shortages of stock water. Winter wheat furnished good grazing in Kansas, Oklahoma, northern Texas, eastern Colorado, and eastern New Mexico. West of the Rockies, feed on winter ranges was poor to good. Arizona range feed was dry and short. California had good feed except in the south, and new feed was well started on lower ranges. In Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, old range feed was fair to good but of rather poor quality, and grazing during December was somewhat restricted by snow and storms. Utah and Nevada winter ranges had fair to good feed, with some dry spots and some shortage of stock water.

Hay and other feeds were generally ample east of the main range and in the Southwest. In the Far West, hay supply was not large and was being used rapidly. Shortage will develop in some areas if the winter becomes severe. Prices were high. Grain supplies in the Far West were large and were being used in greater quantities than usual.

Reports on the mid-January storm through northern and central Wyoming and into Colorado indicated some shrinkage but no losses.

Condition of range feed on January 1 was 83 per cent, compared with 84 last month, 88 a year ago, and 79 for the 1923-42 average.

Cattle and calves were wintering in good condition and were in above average condition in states east of the main

range. There was some shrinkage in condition in local areas from storms and feed shortages. The reported condition of cattle was below the high figure of a year ago but generally above that of recent years. Marketings from the North were not heavy during December but movement from Texas was large and Kansas and Oklahoma had fairly heavy runs. A large number of cattle were grazing on wheat pastures in Kansas and northern Texas.

Sheep were going into the winter in generally good condition, except that winter conditions were not so good as a year ago on the ranges in parts of Wyoming and west of the main range. Marketings from the range states have been larger than last fall, with a decided tendency toward culling old ewes. Texas sheep conditions were fairly good. New feed there was making a fair growth. Early lambs were doing well in California and Arizona. Late December storms caused some shrinkage in Kansas wheatfield lambs and temporarily delayed marketings.

BULLETINS IN BRIEF

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK NUMBERS INCREASE

All classes of livestock in Canada showed increases as of June 1, 1942, compared with the preliminary census figures for 1941, according to the Department of Agriculture. Further increases appear likely, as there is an abundance of feed supplies available and wartime demand for meat and dairy products continues to mount. Hogs increased more than any other livestock and reached the record total of 7,133,000, or 17 per cent above 1941. Cattle increased 5 per cent to 8,945,000; sheep, 11 per cent to 3,195,000; and horses, 1 per cent to 2,816,000 head. Increases as compared with unrevised figures for 1939 are as follows: Cattle, 6 per cent; hogs, 66 per cent; sheep, 12 per cent; and horses, 1 per cent.

FARM LAND VALUES RISE MODERATELY

Strengthened by rising farm incomes and other influences, farm land values in the nation as a whole increased moderately in the period July 1 to November 1, 1942, according to the Department of Agriculture. Accompanying the general rise in values, however, was a decrease in land sales activity. Principal factors retarding rise of values were reported to be potential shortages of labor, machinery, fertilizer, and other materials, as well as increased income taxes. A substantial majority of all buyers of farm land during the four-month period was made up of operating farmers, al-

though some increase occurred in the proportion of investment purchases made by non-farmer buyers. Average values per acre rose from 91 (1912-14=100) on July 1 to 93 on November 1. The figure for last March was 91, compared with 85 in 1941, 84 in 1940, and a low of 73 in 1933. Although farm land values per acre on November 1 were reported 27 per cent higher than at the low point of 1933, they are still 7 per cent below the 1912-14 base and 45 per cent under the 1920 peak.

SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION

A limited stock of small arms ammunition has been made available to the Morey Mercantile Company, of Denver, Colorado, by the Defense Supplies Corporation for distribution to ranchers and farmers for predatory animal control and to law enforcement agencies and plant guards for property protection, according to N. J. Castellan, regional manager for the War Production Board. Users are to file application forms available at Morey Mercantile Company, and get them approved by county extension agents. Dealers in the mountain region may get ammunition for resale for the purposes specified provided they agree to the restricted sales requested. The quantity of ammunition sold to individual ranchers, farmers, or law-enforcement agencies is limited.

FARM FORECLOSURES DECLINE

The Farm Credit Administration which is now located at Kansas City, Missouri, reports that farm foreclosures in the United States declined 26 per cent in the first six months of 1942 with a total of 6,500, the smallest number in the eight years for which the FCA has records. In the second quarter of 1942 the rate of foreclosures on farms by all lenders reached a new low of 1.5 per 1,000 farms mortgaged, compared with 4.5 in the same three months of 1939. The foreclosure rate for insurance companies and the land banks was only 1.1 for the second quarter of 1942. On September 30 the twelve land banks and the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation held 13,863 farms and sheriffs' certificates, or 40 per cent less than holdings a year earlier.

PRICE CURB ON USED FARM MACHINERY

Sales of five critical used farm machines, whether by dealers, auctioneers, or farmers themselves, have been placed under price control by the OPA. The action is designed to relieve farmers from paying excessive prices resulting from rapidly increasing demand. The machines covered are used farm tractors (except crawler tractors), combines, corn pickers, corn binders, and motor- or tractor-operated hay balers. Generally, the maximum prices are 70 per cent and 95 per cent of the list or base prices for the same new equipment.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

RANCH AND FARM OUTPUT

Year-end estimates of Department of Agriculture indicate that output of livestock and livestock products in 1942 for sale and home consumption was up 12 per cent from 1941, crop production was up nearly 14 per cent, and the total agricultural production was up nearly 12 per cent. The 1942 goals called for increases of 9 per cent in livestock and 6 per cent in total agricultural production. Total cash farm income for 1942, including government payments, is now estimated at \$15,900,000,000. Attainment of the 1943 goals would result in an increase over 1942 of about 12 per cent in output of livestock and livestock products, and 4 per cent in total agricultural production. Secretary Wickard praised the 1942 food production and called for greater effort in 1943.

POPULATION SHIFTS CAUSE MEAT SHORTAGE

Many of the temporary meat shortages reported in recent weeks, particularly in industrial areas, arise largely from the fact that the Office of Price Administration meat restriction orders, in reducing the amount of meat which could be distributed to the civilian trade by packers, made no allowance for the pronounced shifts in population which have taken place under the stimulus of war production, according to *National Provisioner*. Some areas of greatest increases in population include Baltimore, 53,000; Chicago, 149,000; Detroit, 336,000; Los Angeles, 131,000; Norfolk, Portsmouth and Newport News, 107,000; St. Louis, 97,000; San Diego, 97,000; Washington, D. C., 231,000; and San Francisco and Oakland, 95,000.

MEAT TRAINING IN THE ARMY

The army meat training program of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, inaugurated at the request of War Department officials, is now completing its second year, and has been so successful and valuable that officials have asked that it be extended to include service to the navy, the air corps, and to the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. Since the start of the program in February, 1941, to date, meat specialists of the Meat Board have given 2,047 demonstrations and lectures to a total of 95,349 mess personnel of the armed forces. One hundred twenty-nine men have been given specialized intensive meat training to enable them further to extend the work of the board by acting as army instructors to teach other men.

LARGER MEAT PRODUCTION IN UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

High prices and increased demand for meat in the Union of South Africa have resulted in a material increase in production since the war began, according to "Foreign Crops and Markets." Added

to the normal needs of the Union population are the increased army requirements, the needs of thousands of European refugees and Italian prisoners, and the larger number of ships calling at Union ports for supplies. Meat production in 1941 reached approximately 990,000,000 pounds, according to preliminary estimates based on the index of slaughter at abattoirs. This is an increase of about 30 per cent above 1939. The slaughter index for the first half of 1942 indicates that production continued to increase.

ON HOME BUTCHERING

Ranchers and farmers who regularly or occasionally butcher their livestock for home consumption should avoid selling or making gifts of the meat, unless they have previously observed that practice; but they are as free as always to butcher livestock for their own use. Secretary Wickard suggests they ought to do their normal amount of home butchering. In the selling or giving away of meat, stockmen encounter federal war time regulations restricting delivery of such meat. These regulations are designed to protect the public health through compulsory federal grading of meats and to provide price and rationing curbs in the interest of supply for the public, for military, and for lend-lease use.

SHEEP WEAR COATS

The University of Wyoming wool department is conducting an experiment in co-operation with Kleber Hadsell and the Seaverson Livestock Company, both of Rawlins, Wyoming, in growth of wool by sheep wearing canvas coats. Forty lambs are being started on what is expected to be a two- or three-year test of the cumulative effect of coating. The experiment is using 120 animals, half of which are fitted with coats and half left free as comparison. However, one purpose is to determine if the coats will last in the general run of country in which sheep graze about Rawlins. Dr. Robert H. Burns is head of the wool department at the university and Alex Johnston is assistant wool specialist.

JAPANESE AMERICANS WORK ON FARMS

Western farmers, particularly those in sugar beet areas, had the help of more than 9,500 workers of Japanese ancestry in harvesting their record 1942 crop, according to the War Relocation Authority. These workers were among the 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the west coast, most of whom are now living at ten inland relocation centers. Idaho had the largest number of Japanese American workers, with 3,987. Others went to Montana, Colorado, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, and Nebraska. Most of the workers took jobs with indi-



L. C. "Jim" Hoover,
livestock auctioneer
serving the cattle-
men of the West.

Jim Hoover
Sterling, Colo.

FOR SALE



STALLION COLTS

From Proven Superior
Strain of Cowhorses

Milo Belsky, Tuthill, S. D.

Are You Keeping Up

with the latest developments in your field? Here's a group of magazines that specialize in a particular subject! You'll be interested in at least one of these magazines... and you have the assurance that the articles are written by people who know. Send in your subscriptions today!

Livestock

American Cattle Producer, \$1.
The Cattleman, \$1.
Florida Cattleman, \$1.
National Live Stock Producer, 50c.
Texas Live Stock Journal, \$1.
Eastern Breeder, \$2 (8 mo., \$1.)
Hog Breeder (all breeds), \$1.
American Hampshire (hog) Herdsman, \$1.
Sheep (and Karakul) Breeder, \$1.
The Sheepman, \$1.

Bee Magazines

Gleanings in Bee Culture, \$1 per year.
Beekeeper's Item, \$1.
American Bee Journal, \$1.

Farming

The Country Book, quarterly, \$1.
American Farm Youth, 75c.
Fletcher's Farming, 50c.

Goats

American Dairy Goat News, \$1.
Goat World, \$2 (6 mos., \$1.)

Pigeons

American Pigeon Journal, squab-fancy, \$1.50.
Pigeon News, fancy only, \$1.50.

Poultry

Cackle & Crow, the Poultry Paper, \$1.
Pacific Poultryman, 50c.
Florida Poultryman, 50c.
New Hamp. Breeder, quarterly, 3 Yrs., \$1.
Bantam Magazine, \$1.

Rabbits

Small Stock (rabbits, caviars, exclusively), \$1.
American Rabbit Journal, \$1.

Other Specialties

Organic Farming, \$2. (6 mo., \$1.)
Dairy Farmer's Digest, \$1.
Eastern Fruit Grower, \$1.
The Soybean Digest, \$1.50.
New Agriculture, (sugar beets only), \$2.
American Fur Breeder, (mink, etc.), \$1.
Small Commercial Animals and Fowls, 50c.

All magazines are monthlies except where otherwise noted. Prices are for one full year. Satisfaction is guaranteed. All orders are handled promptly and acknowledged. Rush your subscriptions today. Remit in any way convenient to you.

MAGAZINE MART

Dept. AC

LaGrange, Ill.

Sample copies at single copy prices.

"WHERE TO BUY" AD DEPARTMENT

Thirty cents a line, except display space. Normally seven words to a line. Display rates on request. Forms close 15th. Send copy to 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colorado.

FOR SALE—the year 'round—top-quality prize-winning but practical Registered Hereford bull calves at reasonable prices. CBQ RANCH, P. O. Box 1786, Fresno, Calif. Ranch located on General Grant National Highway, 180, east of Fresno. It's signed.

WANTED: Used Western Stock Saddles, any make or condition. We pay cash. Write full description as to size, condition, age and lowest cash price. NEWELL'S SADDLE SHOP, 1627 South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

Abortion vaccine; calfhood vaccination. Government licensed strain 19. Free literature. Kansas City Vaccine Company, Department 1-A, Stockyards, Kansas City, Mo. Dr. Oesterhaus, owner.

TRACTOR PARTS: Free 1943 Catalog. New, used Tractor parts. All makes. Quality guaranteed. Prompt shipment. Low prices. Acme Tractor Salvage, Lincoln, Nebraska.

RANCHES, large or small, for sale, exchange, or lease, in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, California, Canada, Central and South America, Africa, and islands of the sea. J. D. FREEMAN, Gunter Building, San Antonio, Texas.

R. V. BROADHURST

Private Investigator

10 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

Livestock Specialist

424 Front Ave. Salt Lake City, Utah

7-3663

Will go anywhere

Phone KE. 8164—Quick Service

Today's PRINTING is Tomorrow's KNOWLEDGE



MONITOR PUBLICATIONS

Incorporated

1950 Curtis

Denver, Colo.

The Producer Is Our Endorsement

vidual farmers, going out of the centers in groups to particular localities where the United States Employment Service indicated a shortage of labor existed. The men received prevailing wages. They lived on individual farms for the most part but some of them worked out of mobile labor camps or "commuted" between the center and a near-by work area. After the harvest was over, many took jobs with the farmers on a year-round basis. Requirements are that the worker must have a specific offer of employment, that there be no record of disloyalty against him, and that the community in which he locates will accept him.

SHORT COURSE IN AGRICULTURE

In order to help provide well trained agricultural workers essential to the war program, the University of Wyoming this year will offer during the slack season, January to March, a special short agricultural course to Wyoming men now engaged in food production. Subjects will include livestock feeding and management, care and repair of farm machinery, crop production and disease control, wool production and marketing, animal diseases and sanitation. The course will begin January 6 and end March 12. Details of registration for the course may be obtained from Dean J. A. Hill, Agricultural Building, University of Wyoming, Laramie.

BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

Machinery for dealing with temporary local food shortages arising out of maldistribution of supplies got started in early January, according to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard. Under the plan, state and area food industry committees are being organized by the Food Distribution Administration to handle critical supply problems. The committees will receive and investigate complaints of shortages, and, where the complaints are verified, arrange for the movement of supplies to alleviate the condition. The committees will also determine the causes of the local shortages and recommend steps to prevent their recurrence.

THE ANGUS YEAR

A strong demand for Angus cattle the past year, with prices averaging 12.5 per cent above the 1941 figure, is reported by W. H. Tomhave, secretary of the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association. In eighty-five public auctions of purebred Angus cattle involving 5,273 head an average price of \$285 was realized. In the previous year the average was \$258. Bulls sold for an average of \$282 in 1942, compared with \$234 in 1941, while females brought \$288 against \$269 in 1941. . . . John Brown, of Rose Hill, Iowa, is the new president of the Angus association.

POWDERED LIVER

A method of reducing liver to a brown powder has been worked out by chemists of the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with one of the large packing companies, according to *Retail Meat Dealer*. In its powdered form, the liver can be preserved indefinitely without refrigeration, and takes up only about one-fifth of its original space. Heretofore it has been possible to send liver abroad, or even to the domestic market, only by keeping it continually frozen. Milk and eggs are other products that are put up in this form.

COLORADO HAS RUBBER PLANT

Pingue, or Colorado rubber plant—a plant poisonous to livestock—has been found to have the highest rubber content of any plants tested during the past several months by the Colorado College experiment station. The plant grows as a weed and is found most commonly in the mountainous counties of south-central Colorado. The roots of ten- or eleven-year-old pingue plants were found to contain from 4.5 to 5.9 per cent rubber. Younger plants contain less rubber.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 4)

going onto feed-lots or winter range in good to excellent condition. Many operators reported increased market weights and increased calf and lamb crops.

Reports indicate favorable moisture conditions for livestock in the higher elevations in Moffat and Yampa counties, although the snowfall is below normal, and Fremont County reports favorable range and water conditions in spite of a dry summer. All other areas report a general lack of precipitation.

Forage on the winter range is good in most places as a result of the high precipitation in late 1941 and early 1942, but winter range use has been restricted because of lack of snow and below-freezing weather which has kept most stock watering reservoirs frozen over.

Excessive trailing to and from water on the winter range has been necessary because of the lack of precipitation, and some operators think they may have to remove their livestock earlier than usual. However, the vegetation is more than ample in most places to carry the livestock if moisture conditions do not seriously limit the use of the range.

There was a general tendency to remove livestock from summer and fall ranges in time to prevent any loss in weight and to increase supplemental feeding to keep average weights higher.

All operators are seriously concerned about labor shortages and the use of inexperienced help, but no general trend in the reduction of numbers has been noticed.—RUSSELL B. ROSE, Regional Grazier, Grazing Service, Grand Junction, Colo.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER